



**BATTLE SCENE**  
**LEXINGTON & CONCORD**  
*(WHITE TEAM)*

The following battle scene will be presented by your team in front of the presentation display. Your presenter will tell you when it is time to come up and you will have 30 seconds to 1 minute to get in your places with all props and set pieces ready (see instructions for props and set pieces below).

Pick **one** person who is a strong reader to be the narrator. The rest of the team will be separated into two groups: the Colonial Minutemen and the British soldiers. There are a few characters from the list below to be assigned also. The person on your team who is already assigned the Paul Revere Character Card should be playing Paul Revere in your battle as well.

Follow the directions found in the parentheses to stage your battle scene. During practice, make sure your team presents the battle with their bodies open to the audience.

**Set Pieces – prepared beforehand by students**

*Cardboard bushes (also used in Battle of Yorktown)*

**Props**

*Toy muskets and a stick horse are provided by presenter*

*When practicing, pantomime using props. The actual props will be given to your team right before your battle.*

**Characters**

**One Narrator** *(DO NOT read what is in the parentheses out loud! This is for staging help only.)*

*British Soldiers*

*Colonial Militia/Minutemen*

*Paul Revere (same student with blue Character Card)*

*Captain Parker*

*Minuteman #1 & Minuteman #2*

**LEXINGTON & CONCORD**

**All Minutemen:** *(Asleep on one side of presentation area beside bushes, muskets next to them)*

**British soldiers:** *(Standing, lined up shoulder to shoulder, marching in place, facing the audience)*

**Narrator:** Even though there had been some Americans killed at the Boston Massacre five years earlier, the Battles of Lexington and Concord were the first battles of the American Revolution. The Battles happened on April 19, 1775. The British were planning on arresting Samuel Adams and John Hancock in Lexington, but Paul Revere rode his horse to warn the town that the Regular British Army was marching into the area.

**Paul Revere:** *(Comes from outside the presentation area, rides on a horse toward the sleeping Minutemen while shouting the following...)* The Regulars are out!! The Regulars are out!!  
*(Rides off the presentation area, still shouting...)* The Regulars are out!! The Regulars are out!!

**All Minutemen:** *(Wake up, stand quickly and load muskets. Aim muskets toward the marching British.)*

**Narrator:** The Americans stood in a flat field to defend themselves.

*(Continued on the back of page)*

*LEXINGTON & CONCORD BATTLE SCENE  
SECOND PAGE*

- British soldiers:** *(Stop marching, face the minutemen, and raise their muskets. Neither side fires muskets.)*
- Captain Parker:** *(Shouts!)* Don't fire unless fired upon!
- Narrator:** No one knows who fired the first shot.
- Everyone:** *(Yells!)* BANG! *(Both sides re-load and fire their muskets again.)* BANG!
- Minuteman #1:** *(Shouts!)* I've been hit! *(Falls to ground.)*
- Captain Parker:** *(Shouts!)* Minutemen Retreat! Retreat!
- Minuteman #2:** *(Helps minuteman #1 up)*
- All Minutemen:** *(Walk offstage, retreating)*
- British soldiers:** *(Jump up and down shout...)* Hooray! Hooray! Victory!
- Narrator:** Eight Americans were killed, and ten others were wounded.
- Narrator:** *(Yells!)* **"CUT!"** *(Team quickly sets up for Concord.)*
- British soldiers:** *(Stand shoulder to shoulder, march in place, face audience in original starting point.)*
- All Minutemen:** *(Hide behind bushes, ready to attack the British, face the audience,)*
- Narrator:** The British continued to march on to Concord to destroy weapons and ammunition they believed were stored in the area. When the British arrived in Concord, another battle happened.
- Everyone:** *(Yells!)* BANG! *(Both sides re-load and fire their muskets again.)* BANG!
- Narrator:** The Americans were defeating the British regulars.
- British soldiers:** *(Three British soldiers fall to the ground. Those standing yell...)* Retreat! Retreat! *(While yelling "retreat" they quickly exit the presentation area.)*
- All Minutemen:** *(Jump up and down, shout...)* We did it! Hooray! Victory!
- Narrator:** The British had to retreat about sixteen miles back to Charlestown. By the time they reached Charlestown, 73 British soldiers were killed, 174 wounded, and 26 others were missing. The Battle of Concord later became known as the "shot heard 'round the world."



**BATTLE SCENE**  
**TRENTON & VALLEY FORGE**  
*(BLUE TEAM)*

The following battle scene will be presented by your team in front of the presentation display. Your presenter will tell you when it is time to come up and you will have 30 seconds to 1 minute to get in your places with all props and set pieces ready (see instructions for props and set pieces below).

Pick **one** person who is a strong reader to be the narrator. The rest of the team will be separated into two groups to depict The Battle of Trenton. One group will be the Continental Army and the other the German Hessians. After the Battle of Trenton, the entire team will depict the Continental Army at Valley Forge.

The person on your team who is already assigned the George Washington Character Card should play George Washington in your battle scene as well. Follow the directions found in the parentheses to stage your battle scene. During practice, make sure your team presents the battle with their bodies open to the audience.

**Set Pieces – prepared beforehand by students**

*Cardboard boat cutout for the crossing of the Delaware River*

*Pretend camp fire*

**Props**

**Prepared beforehand by students:**

*Book titled “American Crisis” by Thomas Paine for General Washington*

*Christmas presents for the German Hessians in Trenton*

*Blankets for Valley Forge*

*Strips of cloth to wrap feet for Valley Forge*

*Toy sword for General Washington (presenter will have one sword to borrow if needed)*

**Provided by presenter:**

*Toy muskets for colonial soldiers*

**Characters**

**One Narrator** (*DO NOT read what is in the parentheses out loud! This is for staging help only.*)

*Colonial soldiers*

*George Washington (same student with blue Character Card)*

*Soldier #1*

*German Hessians*

**TRENTON & VALLEY FORGE**

**George Washington:** (*Wait on one side of the presentation area inside a cardboard boat, ready to & Colonial soldiers row across the Delaware River. Team can use muskets provided by presenter as pretend oars.*)

**German Hessians:** (*On the other side of the presentation area pass out Christmas presents and wish one another a Merry Christmas.*)

**Narrator:** When most of the American and British troops stopped fighting for the winter, General Washington took advantage of the break to do a surprise attack. On Christmas night, 1776, Washington and the American soldiers rowed across the Delaware River.

*(Continued on the back of page)*

*TRENTON & VALLEY FORGE BATTLE SCENE  
SECOND PAGE*

**German Hessians:** *(Stop passing around gifts and lay down to sleep.)*

**George Washington:** We go to face the German Hessians! Be brave men! *(Hold sword high in the air!)*  
Onward for Freedom!

**Colonial soldiers:** *(Yell...)* FOR FREEDOM! *(Soldiers row the boat toward the center of the presentation area.)*

**Narrator:** Once they were across, they marched on to Trenton and attacked the German Hessians *(HESH-INS)*.

**Colonial soldiers:** *(Get out of the boat, face the audience, and form a semicircle around the sleeping Hessians. Raise toy muskets and point them toward Hessians.)*

**Soldier #1:** Wake up! You are surrounded!

**German Hessians:** *(Wake up and raise hands in surrender.)*

**Colonial soldiers:** *(Lead the Hessians out of the presentation area.)*

**Narrator:** The American army captured over 900 enemy soldiers. The Battle of Trenton was one of the first major American victories.

**Narrator:** *(Yells!)* "CUT!" *(Team quickly sets up for Valley Forge.)*

*(ALL students now represent colonial soldiers. They sit in a semicircle facing the audience with a campfire in front of them. They are very cold, sharing blankets and wrapping their feet in rags. Washington stands behind them, faces the audience with a book titled "American Crisis" by Thomas Paine in his hand.)*

**Everyone:** *(Yells!)* "ACTION!"

**Narrator:** The next winter, General Washington and his troops waited at Valley Forge for winter to end. The American soldiers did not have enough food or shoes for the cold. Many of the soldiers had to wrap their feet with rags because of the freezing weather. General Washington had to do many things to keep his troops inspired to fight.

**George Washington:** *(Shouts loudly from book so all can hear)* "These are the times that try men's souls!"

**Narrator:** Valley Forge was not a battle, but it was a very important part of the Revolution. Because of the courage and leadership of General Washington, the troops made it through this difficult winter.

**Everyone:** *(Stand and make a semicircle behind General Washington, with Washington in the center and all face the audience. Yell!)* "Hip, Hip Hooray! Hip, Hip Hooray!"



## BATTLE SCENE

# YORKTOWN

### (RED TEAM)

The following battle scene will be presented by your team in front of the presentation display. Your presenter will tell you when it is time to come up and you will have 30 seconds to 1 minute to get in your places with all props and set pieces ready (see instructions for props and set pieces below).

Pick **one** person who is a strong reader to be the narrator. The rest of the team will be separated into two groups: the Continental Army and the British soldiers. The two people already assigned the characters of General Charles Cornwallis and General Rochambeau will also play them in the battle. You need to pick a student from **your team** to play the parts of George Washington, Benjamin Lincoln, and General O'Hara.

Follow the directions found in the parentheses to stage your battle scene. During practice, make sure your team presents the battle with their bodies open to the audience.

#### **Set Pieces – prepared beforehand by students**

*Cardboard bushes (also used in Battle of Lexington and Concord)*

#### **Props**

##### ***Provided beforehand by students:***

*White flag for General Charles Cornwallis to surrender*

*3 toy swords for General Washington, General Rochambeau, and General Cornwallis (presenter will have **one sword** to borrow if needed)*

##### ***Provided by presenter:***

*Toy muskets*

#### **Characters**

**One Narrator** (*DO NOT read what is in the parentheses out loud! This is for staging help only.*)

*Colonial soldiers & French soldiers*

*General George Washington & General Benjamin Lincoln (colonial)*

*General Rochambeau (French) (same student with blue Character Card)*

*British soldiers*

*General Charles Cornwallis (same student with blue Character Card) & General O'Hara*

## YORKTOWN

**British soldiers:** *(Sit in semicircle, face audience with toy muskets next to you, heads down, look very tired. Cornwallis is outside of presentation area.)*

**Colonial soldiers:** *(On the opposite side of the presentation area, hide behind bushes with muskets aimed as if in a battle. Narration begins...)*

**Narrator:** The American Revolutionary War had been going on for more than six years. The British were tired of fighting the Americans, as well as other people around the world. Their army and navy were split up and fighting in many places. The leader of the British troops, General Charles Cornwallis (**CORN-WALL-ES**), felt that he could win the war quickly.

**General Cornwallis:** *(March into the presentation area, stand beside your men, face the audience, raise sword high and yell...) ATTENTION!*

**British soldiers:** *(Grab muskets, quickly stand, form a straight line, shoulder to shoulder with muskets over left shoulders.)* *(Continued on the back of page)*

**YORKTOWN BATTLE SCENE, SECOND PAGE**

- Narrator:** He invaded from the Southern Colonies and began to march his troops north. At the same time, the French navy attacked the British ships and defeated them.
- General Cornwallis:** *(Yell!) FORWARD! (March in front of your troops toward the colonial soldiers.)*
- British soldiers:** *(March in straight line behind Cornwallis, toward the colonial soldiers.)*
- Narrator:** The Americans, along with General Rochambeau (*RO-SHAM-BO*) and the French troops, attacked Cornwallis and his men in Yorktown, Virginia.
- Washington & Rochambeau:** *(Stand from behind bushes, raise swords in the air and together yell!) ATTACK!!*
- British soldiers:** *(Load muskets and fire.) BANG!*
- Colonial soldiers:** *(Load and fire muskets.) BANG!*
- British soldiers:** *(All fall to ground except for General Charles Cornwallis and General O'Hara.)*
- Narrator:** After days of fighting, they surrounded the British and forced them to surrender.
- Colonial soldiers:** *(Form a semi-circle with Cornwallis and O'Hara in front. All face the audience. Soldiers hold Cornwallis and O'Hara at gunpoint.)*
- Cornwallis & O'Hara:** *(Place swords down on the floor, face audience.)*
- Cornwallis:** *(Raise a white flag high in the air, wave it and yell...) WE SURRENDER!*
- Narrator:** Cornwallis was so ashamed of losing the war that he sent his second in command, Brigadier (*BRIG-A-DEER*) General Charles O'Hara, to surrender.
- Cornwallis:** *(Hand your sword to O'Hara, and point toward General Washington. Then, sit on the floor and hang your head in shame.)*
- British & Colonial soldiers:** *(Exit presentation area.)*
- O'Hara:** *(Take the sword of Cornwallis over to General Washington, General Rochambeau, and Benjamin Lincoln who face the audience and stand in a straight line.)*
- Narrator:** General O'Hara tried to give the sword to General Rochambeau, who refused to accept it.
- O'Hara:** *(Get down on one knee beside Rochambeau and offer up the sword.)*
- Rochambeau:** No! I will not take the sword. *(Shake your head and point to Washington.)*
- O'Hara:** *(Get down on one knee beside Washington and offer up the sword.)*
- Narrator:** General Washington also refused to take it!
- Washington:** No! I will not take the sword. *(Shake your head and point to Benjamin Lincoln.)*
- O'Hara:** *(Get down on one knee beside Benjamin Lincoln and offer up the sword.)*
- Narrator:** Washington had Brigadier General Benjamin Lincoln, **HIS** second in command, accept the sword.
- Benjamin Lincoln:** I will take the sword of surrender! *(Take the sword.)*
- Narrator:** Then the war was over! *(American soldiers cheer and celebrate!)*
- Those on Stage:** *(Raise swords in the air and yell!) THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!!*