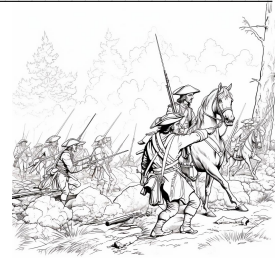


Name: _____

The Revolutionary War

The French and Indian War

Directions: Read the following passage then answer the questions.



The French and Indian War: A Battle for Power and Land

Imagine muskets firing, canoes racing down rivers, and secret meetings in thick forests. The year is 1754. The French and the British both want control of the New World, and tensions are rising. Conflicts are increasing between the colonists and the native tribes too. This all leads to an epic showdown known to Americans as the French and Indian War.

The Spark of War: Fighting Over Land

The British built colonies across the east coast of America. The French claimed the interior of the country. They each had different goals in mind. The British created lots of farms and towns. They wanted to settle the land. The French weren't interested in developing land. They mainly wanted resources to trade, especially fur.

So the French built relationships with native tribes. They were friendly trading partners. They lived amongst the native tribes. They even intermarried with them. But the British colonists were land hungry farmers. They mainly wanted the natives off the land. They kept expanding their settlements west, and they kept bumping into native tribes. These tribes were not happy about this.

Native American Allies

Native American tribes chose sides based on whom they thought would be the better ally. Most tribes aligned with the French, who were closer to them and lived more like them. But some tribes sided with the British. They saw this as an opportunity to attack rival tribes with powerful support. They also believed that the British would stop settlers from taking more land if they won.

The War Unfolds

BOOM! Battles erupted in the wilderness. Soldiers and warriors fought across dense forests, rushing rivers, and rugged mountains. For seven long and harsh years, the war blazed on. The British had a rough start but things turned around for them. They raised troops and got help from their many colonies.

The turning point came in 1759, when the British captured Quebec, a major French city in Canada. This was a game-changing move that would make any chess player proud! Without this city the French had a weak hold on their colonies. They had trouble bringing more troops and supplies to the fight. They kept fighting for years, but after losing Quebec, they were destined to lose the war.

The War's Resolution: A New Map

Finally, in 1763, the Treaty of Paris was signed. The French packed their bags and left. The map of the New World was forever changed. But now the British had a huge debt from the war. Guess who they expected to help pay for it? The colonists! The British were also trying to keep peace with the Native Americans, who helped them win the war. So they drew a line: no colonist could settle past the Appalachian Mountains. New taxes? No new settlements? The colonies were ripe for revolution.

Name: _____

The Revolutionary War *The French and Indian War*

Directions: Read the following passage then answer the questions.



Reading Questions

1. Compare and contrast British and French colonies. _____

2. Why did the Native American tribes mostly side with the French? _____

3. Why did some tribes choose to align with the British? _____

4. If you were a Native American tribe leader, which side would you align with and WHY?

5. Why was capturing Quebec a significant turning point for the British? _____

6. How did the outcome of the war change the world? _____

7. Why did some colonists feel betrayed by the British after the war? _____

8. Do you think the colonists were treated unfairly by the British? Why or why not?

9. How did the war debt increase tensions between the British and colonists? _____

10. How might the U.S. be different today if the French had won? _____
