Many Hands, One Cause

How people and groups helped win independence

SS24.4.6a "Summarize the contributions of different groups and individuals to the American Revolution."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each person or group that helped the American fight for independence, then circle the words that show what each one did. Use your marks to summarize their contributions.

Helping the Fight for Independence

1. In 1775, fighting began between Britain and its American colonies. George Washington led the Continental Army, made up of soldiers from the colonies. His troops faced hunger, cold, and a powerful British army. Washington kept the army together through hard times. The soldiers trained and fought in battles. Their steady effort gave the colonies an army that could keep fighting for independence.

2. Many women helped the army without fighting in battle. Some made clothing, carried supplies, or cared for sick soldiers. Black Americans also contributed in different ways. James Armistead Lafayette, an enslaved man, gathered information about British plans while working as a spy for the Americans. He passed this information to American leaders. These efforts helped the army meet its needs and learn about its enemy.

3. The Americans did not fight alone. France sent soldiers to help them. At Yorktown, Virginia, in 1781, French soldiers fought alongside American soldiers against the British. French ships blocked British ships from bringing help or carrying troops away. The British army at Yorktown surrendered. This victory did not end the war at once, but it brought the colonies closer to independence.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Summarize how George Washington and the Continental Army helped the fight for independence.

2. Summarize two ways women helped the Continental Army.

3. Summarize how James Armistead Lafayette helped the Americans.

4. Summarize how French soldiers and ships helped at Yorktown.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a museum label with a short title and three sentences. Choose one person or group from paragraph 2 and one from paragraph 3, explain what each did, and tell how their different efforts helped the same cause.

ANSWER KEY

Many Hands, One Cause

GRADE 4 · SS24.4.6a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each person or group that helped the American fight for independence, then circle the words that show what each one did. Use your marks to summarize their contributions. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Summarize how George Washington and the Continental Army helped the fight for independence.	**Washington kept the army together through hard times, and its soldiers trained and fought so the colonies could keep fighting.**
2	Summarize two ways women helped the Continental Army.	**Women made clothing, carried supplies, and cared for sick soldiers. Accept any two.**
3	Summarize how James Armistead Lafayette helped the Americans.	**He spied on the British and passed information about their plans to American leaders.**
4	Summarize how French soldiers and ships helped at Yorktown.	**French soldiers fought beside American soldiers, while French ships blocked British ships from bringing help or carrying troops away.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Care and a Sea Blockade

Women made clothing, carried supplies, and cared for sick soldiers. French ships blocked British ships at Yorktown. These different efforts helped the Americans keep fighting and kept British help from reaching Yorktown.

Accept accurate summaries in students' own words. For the museum label, look for two contributors from the specified paragraphs, each one's contribution, and a clear link to the fight for independence.