

Florida in Revolution

Trace how Florida shaped the Revolutionary era and early republic.

SS.8.A.3.16 "Examine key events in Florida history as each impacts this era of American history."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the final two sentences in paragraph 1 and the final sentence in paragraphs 2 and 3, because these sentences explain how each Florida event mattered beyond Florida.

Florida Changes Hands

- ① In 1763, the Treaty of Paris ended the French and Indian War. Britain received Florida from Spain and divided the territory into East Florida, with its capital at St. Augustine, and West Florida, with its capital at Pensacola. British officials offered land and religious toleration to attract settlers, including former soldiers and planters. Florida's new British rule showed how Britain expanded its North American empire after defeating France. It also placed Florida inside the growing conflict between Britain and its mainland colonies.
- ② During the American Revolution, East Florida remained loyal to Britain. Many Loyalists fled there from Georgia and the Carolinas, and British troops used St. Augustine as a military base. In 1777, Georgia patriots and their allies tried to capture St. Augustine but failed. Florida therefore became a southern refuge and supply center for the British war effort. Its loyalty mattered because the Revolution was fought across North America, not only in the thirteen rebelling colonies.
- ③ Spain entered the war against Britain in 1779 and fought to recover Florida. In 1781, Spanish forces led by Bernardo de Gálvez captured Pensacola, the British capital of West Florida. The 1783 Treaty of Versailles returned both East and West Florida to Spain, while the separate Treaty of Paris recognized United States independence. The change weakened Britain's position in the Southeast. It also showed that the new United States had to deal with Spain along its southern border, an issue that continued into the early republic.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did British control of Florida after 1763 connect Florida to a larger conflict in North America?

2 What role did East Florida play for Britain during the American Revolution, and why did that role matter?

3 How did the capture of Pensacola and the 1783 Treaty of Versailles change Britain's position in the Southeast?

4 How were the Treaty of Versailles and the Treaty of Paris different in 1783?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose one Florida event from the passage. Write three sentences that name the event, give one detail that shows what happened, and explain how the event affected the wider Revolutionary era or early republic.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the final two sentences in paragraph 1 and the final sentence in paragraphs 2 and 3, because these sentences explain how each Florida event mattered beyond Florida. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did British control of Florida after 1763 connect Florida to a larger conflict in North America?	British rule placed Florida within the growing conflict between Britain and its mainland colonies.
2	What role did East Florida play for Britain during the American Revolution, and why did that role matter?	East Florida was a refuge for Loyalists and a military supply center for Britain. It showed that the Revolution extended across North America, beyond the thirteen rebelling colonies.
3	How did the capture of Pensacola and the 1783 Treaty of Versailles change Britain's position in the Southeast?	Spanish forces captured Pensacola, and the Treaty of Versailles returned East and West Florida to Spain. These events weakened Britain's position in the Southeast.
4	How were the Treaty of Versailles and the Treaty of Paris different in 1783?	The Treaty of Versailles returned East and West Florida to Spain. The separate Treaty of Paris recognized United States independence.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In 1777, Georgia patriots and their allies tried to capture St. Augustine. Their attempt failed, so Britain kept an important base in East Florida. This helped Britain continue using Florida as a refuge and supply center during a war fought across North America.

Accept any passage event if the response accurately names it, includes a supporting detail, and clearly connects it to a broader effect on the Revolution or early republic. Students may use different valid wording for the wider impact.