

Georgia Divided

Analyze how local loyalties shaped Georgia's Revolutionary War.

SS8H3.c "Analyze the significance of the Loyalists and Patriots as a part of Georgia's role in the Revolutionary War; include the Battle of Kettle Creek and Siege of Savannah."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details about Patriots, circle details about Loyalists, and number the sentences that explain why Kettle Creek or the Siege of Savannah mattered.

Choices and Conflict in Georgia

- ① Georgia became a contested frontier after British forces captured Savannah in December 1778. Patriots supported independence and fought to weaken British control. Loyalists remained loyal to Britain, believing the Crown could restore order or protect their interests. Neighbors sometimes chose opposing sides, so the war divided communities as well as armies. British leaders expected Loyalist support in the backcountry to help them regain Georgia and then move northward. That expectation made local choices important to the larger war.
- ② At the Battle of Kettle Creek on February 14, 1779, Patriot militia attacked a Loyalist force led by Colonel John Boyd. Boyd's men were traveling toward Augusta, where they hoped to join British troops. Patriots including Andrew Pickens, John Dooly, and Elijah Clarke won the fight. Their victory stopped many Loyalists from reaching Augusta, discouraged some Loyalist recruits, and gave Patriots needed confidence. Kettle Creek showed that local militia could interrupt a British strategy built partly on Loyalist support.
- ③ In autumn 1779, American and French forces tried to retake British-held Savannah. During the Siege of Savannah, the allied army attacked British defenses on October 9. The assault failed, and Polish-born cavalry officer Casimir Pulaski was mortally wounded. Britain kept Savannah and continued to use the city as a southern base. Together, Kettle Creek and the siege reveal a mixed picture: Patriots could win important local victories, but Loyalist and British strength, especially in fortified Savannah, helped Britain hold a major Georgia port.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did Patriot and Loyalist plans clash at Kettle Creek? Use one detail about each side.

2 Why did the Patriot victory at Kettle Creek matter to the British strategy in Georgia?

3 What did the failed assault during the Siege of Savannah show about the limits of Patriot forces?

4 How do Kettle Creek and the Siege of Savannah together show that Georgia's Revolutionary War was divided?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly three sentences explaining why Georgia was hard for either side to control. Use one fact from Kettle Creek and one fact from the Siege of Savannah, then explain what both facts show about Loyalists and Patriots.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details about Patriots, circle details about Loyalists, and number the sentences that explain why Kettle Creek or the Siege of Savannah mattered. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Patriot and Loyalist plans clash at Kettle Creek? Use one detail about each side.	Loyalists were marching to Augusta to join British troops, while Patriot militia attacked them and stopped many from reaching Augusta.
2	Why did the Patriot victory at Kettle Creek matter to the British strategy in Georgia?	It interrupted a British strategy that depended partly on Loyalist support and prevented many Loyalists from joining British troops at Augusta.
3	What did the failed assault during the Siege of Savannah show about the limits of Patriot forces?	It showed that Patriots and their French allies could not overcome the British defenses and quickly remove British power from Savannah.
4	How do Kettle Creek and the Siege of Savannah together show that Georgia's Revolutionary War was divided?	Kettle Creek showed Patriot militia defeating Loyalists and disrupting British plans, while the Siege of Savannah showed British forces keeping a major port. Different groups held strength in different places.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Georgia was hard for either side to control because the war divided its people and its key places. At Kettle Creek, Patriot militia stopped Loyalists from joining British troops at Augusta, weakening a British plan. At Savannah, British forces held strong defenses against the American and French attack, showing that Patriots could not quickly remove British power.

Accept equivalent evidence-based explanations that accurately contrast Patriot actions with Loyalist and British strength. For the open response, check for exactly three sentences, accurate facts from both events, and a clear explanation of divided control.