Beyond the Generals

Different ways people helped the Patriot cause

5.H.12 "Identify contributions of women and minorities during the American Revolution."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each person's or group's name, then circle the words that tell how they helped the Patriots.

More Than Soldiers

1. The American Revolution was not fought only by famous generals. Deborah Sampson, a woman from Massachusetts, dressed as a man to join the Continental Army in 1782. She served as a soldier and was wounded. Phillis Wheatley, a Black poet who had been enslaved, used words instead of a weapon. Her poem praising George Washington showed support for the Patriot cause.

2. James Armistead was an enslaved Black man in Virginia. During the war, he worked as a spy for the Patriots under the Marquis de Lafayette. Armistead entered British camps and learned about British plans. He passed what he learned to Lafayette, who could use that news to plan against British forces. Armistead later gained his freedom, but during the war he had risked his safety to share information.

3. The Oneida people, a Native American nation, also played a part in the war. Many Oneida supported the Patriots, although not every Oneida person made the same choice. Oneida warriors fought beside Patriot forces at the Battle of Oriskany in 1777. Oneida people also brought food to hungry Patriot soldiers. Their actions show that helping an army could mean fighting, sharing supplies, or doing both.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Deborah Sampson help the Patriot cause?

2. How did Phillis Wheatley show support for the Patriots?

3. What did James Armistead contribute as a spy?

4. Name two ways Oneida people helped the Patriots.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence museum label comparing one woman and one Black or Native American person or group in the passage. Name both, tell what each did, and explain one difference between their contributions.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each person's or group's name, then circle the words that tell how they helped the Patriots. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Deborah Sampson help the Patriot cause?	**She joined the Continental Army and served as a soldier.**
2	How did Phillis Wheatley show support for the Patriots?	**She wrote a poem praising George Washington.**
3	What did James Armistead contribute as a spy?	**He learned about British plans and passed the information to Lafayette.**
4	Name two ways Oneida people helped the Patriots.	**Oneida warriors fought beside Patriot forces, and Oneida people brought food to soldiers.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Deborah Sampson served as a soldier in the Continental Army. James Armistead gathered information about British plans and passed it to Lafayette. Sampson helped by fighting, while Armistead helped by sharing information.

Accept other accurate comparisons that name a woman and a Black or Native American person or group from the passage. The label must state each contribution and explain a difference.