

Two Turning Points

Read about courage, challenge, and preparation during the American Revolution.

2.12.b "Valley Forge and George Washington's crossing of the Delaware River; and"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that tell what was hard for Washington's army. Circle words that tell what the army did to meet each challenge.

Washington's Army

- ① During the American Revolution, General George Washington led soldiers across the icy Delaware River on the night of December 25, 1776. The soldiers traveled in boats through cold weather and floating ice. They planned a surprise attack on Trenton, New Jersey.
- ② Early the next morning, Washington's army reached Trenton. The surprise helped the Americans win the battle against Hessian soldiers who fought for Britain. This victory gave the American army hope after several hard losses.
- ③ One year later, Washington's army spent the winter at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Many soldiers lacked warm clothes, blankets, and enough food. They built shelters and trained together. By spring, the army was stronger and better prepared to fight.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did crossing the Delaware River help Washington's army at Trenton?

2 What were two hardships soldiers faced at Valley Forge?

3 What did the soldiers do at Valley Forge that helped the army by spring?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a two-sentence report for families about Washington's army. In the first sentence, tell about an action at the Delaware River. In the second sentence, tell how Valley Forge helped prepare the army.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline words that tell what was hard for Washington's army. Circle words that tell what the army did to meet each challenge. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did crossing the Delaware River help Washington's army at Trenton?	The soldiers surprised the enemy at Trenton, won the battle, and gained hope.
2	What were two hardships soldiers faced at Valley Forge?	They lacked warm clothes, blankets, and enough food. Accept any two.
3	What did the soldiers do at Valley Forge that helped the army by spring?	They built shelters and trained together. The army became stronger and better prepared to fight.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Washington's soldiers crossed the icy Delaware River at night so they could surprise Trenton. At Valley Forge, soldiers trained through a hard winter, which helped make the army stronger.

Accept answers that use passage details about the crossing, the surprise at Trenton, or the hardships and training at Valley Forge. For the report, check that both events are included and that the Valley Forge sentence explains preparation.