

Van Cortlandt House Museum

Pre-Visit Study Materials and Activities

The information included in this packet is intended to help prepare students for the visit to Van Cortlandt House Museum. Focusing on two themes - domestic life and the Revolutionary War - the information includes brief histories as well as activities. Please feel free to reproduce these materials as needed.



Production and distribution of this packet of pre-visit study materials and activities was made possible in part by a grant from The Order of Colonial Lords of Manors in America.

Van Cortlandt House Museum • Van Cortlandt Park •
Broadway at West 246th Street • Bronx, NY 10471 • 718-543-3344
The National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York
www.vchm.org

Dear Teacher,

We are pleased you have chosen Van Cortlandt House Museum as a field trip destination. Our education programs are made possible by financial support from The National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York. We like to share your student's reactions with our funders. If it fits into your lesson plan, we ask that you help us by having your students share their impressions of their field trip to Van Cortlandt House. Please send letters, drawings, etc., to us at Van Cortlandt House Museum at the address below.

Van Cortlandt House Museum
Van Cortlandt Park
Broadway at West 246th Street
Bronx, NY 10471-4198

If you have any comments about the contents of this packet of activities or suggestions for improvement, please let us know.

Thank-you,

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Michael J. Grillo, Museum Educator email to: Michael.Grillo@vchm.org
Van Cortlandt House Museum

If you grew up in Van Cortlandt House

Before your visit to Van Cortlandt House you will want to think about what a typical day at the house might be like. Imagine that you are a boy or girl living in Colonial times at a large plantation house like Van Cortlandt House.

First, you would not have had many things that you are used to having and take for granted every day. There was no television, no VCR, no radio, no video games, or telephone. There were no electric lights; in fact, there was no electricity at all. In winter, your house would be cold and drafty with no modern heating. In summer there was no air conditioning to keep you cool. Also, there was no running water in houses in Colonial times. That meant no sinks with hot or cold running water, no showers or baths, and no indoor toilets! Now let's look at what your day might be like.

Morning: At sunrise you get out of the bed that you probably shared with your brothers and sisters. You'll wash your face and hands, dress and head to the kitchen to have a quick snack. After your snack you will start your chores.

Fire, Wood and Water

First you have to start up a fire in the fireplace. This is where all of your meals were made as well as serving as the source of heat. If you were lucky, there would still be some hot coals left from last night's fire. With the nearest house a good distance away, the Van Cortlandts would not have been able to rely upon the neighbors for hot coals. If there were no hot coals you might start a fire using flint and steel. Keep in mind there were no matches or lighters in those days. Then there was firewood to bring into the house, enough for every fireplace. In addition to using the kitchen fireplace for cooking, the only heat you would have come from a fireplace. In winter there would always be a fire going somewhere in the house and all the wood used in these fires would have to be carried into the house. Next you would have to carry water, using wooden buckets, into the kitchen. Water was needed throughout the day for cooking and washing and to control sparks coming out of the fireplace.

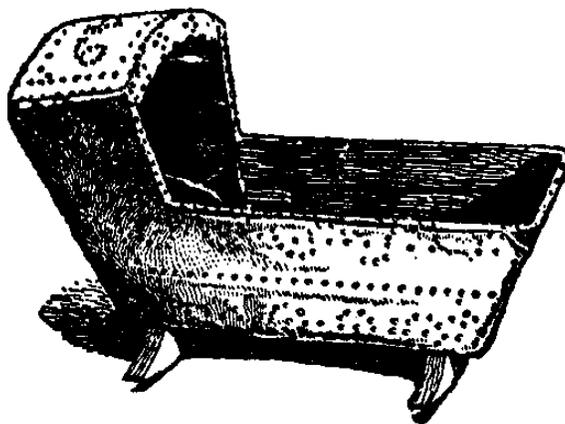
Plantation Chores

After you finished the indoor chores, you would have been needed to lend a hand on the plantation. Although enslaved people and hired workers did the heaviest work on the plantation, there would still have been many chores for the Van Cortlandt children. You would probably have had to help feed the animals. The barns would have held horses for riding, for pulling small wagons or carriages and for pulling a plow. There would also be oxen for pulling heavy loads such as large farm wagons or for pulling tree stumps and large rocks to clear farmland. There would be chickens for eggs, pigs for bacon, sheep for wool and meat, and cows for milk, meat and leather. After all of the animals were fed, then you would eat the breakfast that your mother or a cook was preparing while you did your chores. It was now about nine or ten o'clock. Throughout the rest of the day boys might help the men in the fields with plantings and plowing or hoeing the weeds. They might herd the cattle and sheep from one field to another.

Household Chores

Girls were responsible for helping with household chores. These chores included helping in the kitchen preparing foods, baking, washing clothes and especially keeping an eye on the younger children. They would also help in the process to make wool yarn by cleaning raw fleece of the bits of dirt, burrs, pine tar and sticks that the sheep managed to pick-up. Then the fleece would then be thoroughly washed. Once washed, the wool had to be brushed or carded to straighten out the fibers. This was done with two carding brushes, rectangular paddles, both set thickly with wire teeth curved slightly toward the handle. The raw wool was repeatedly brushed between these two paddles or carded. Then the wool was then ready to be spun on a spinning wheel into yarn and, if desired, dyed different colors.

Afternoon: About three-thirty or four o'clock you would sit down to dinner, usually the main meal of the day. After dinner, it would be more of the same work as before, or some social visiting, or home schooling. You would learn your numbers and letters from a hornbook or a battledore. At the end of the day, as it was getting dark, you would come home and take care of the household chores necessary to make ready for night. Of course, you would be sure to have enough wood and water to last through the night. Depending on the season, windows and shutters would be opened or closed. Then the whole family would sit down to a light meal called supper. After supper the family might gather around the light and warmth of the fireplace to play a game such as nine men's morrice or perhaps hear a story. Then about nine o'clock, or earlier, it would be time to go to bed.



Family Names

A person's last name often tells you something about their family history. For example, the last name Stevenson might be used by a man who is the son of Steven so that others might tell him apart from his father. Sometimes a person's last name tells you what people in the family did for a living. For example, the last name "Smith" is so common because there were many different kinds of smith. Smith is defined as one who works or shapes metal. Let's see how many smiths you know.

If you work in black metal, you're called a _____
If you work in white metal, you're called a _____
If you work in gold, you're called a _____
If you work in silver, you're called a _____
If you make or repair guns, you're called a _____
If you make or repair locks, you're called a _____

There are many other last names that tell about a trade or a profession. Some you may know, and some you may have to look up.

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Trade or Profession</u>
Cooper	_____
Sawyer	_____
Miller	_____
Potter	_____
Carpenter	_____
Wright	_____
Porter	_____

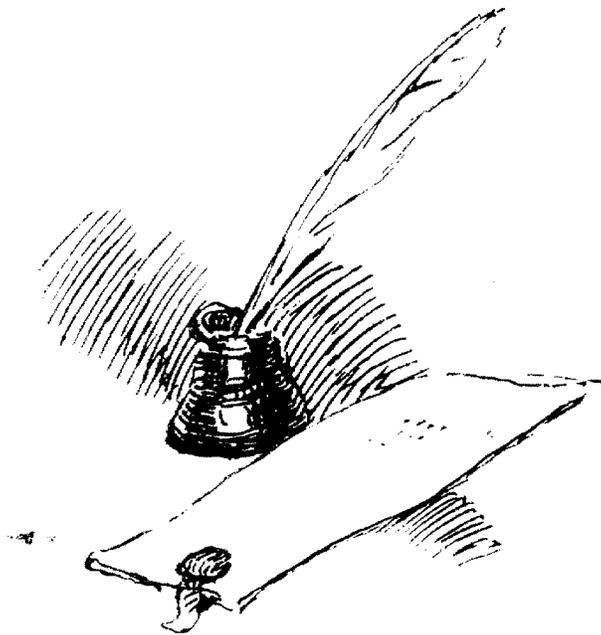
Do you know any names that describe a person's job or trade?

List them here. _____

A Timeline of the Revolutionary War

April 19, 1775	War begins with the battle of Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts.
May 10, 1775	Americans under Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold capture Fort Ticonderoga, New York from the British.
June 17, 1775	Battle of Bunker Hill in Boston, Massachusetts.
July 3, 1775	George Washington takes command of the American forces at Cambridge, Massachusetts; Siege of Boston begins.
December 31, 1775	Americans, under Montgomery and Arnold, defeated at Quebec.
March 1776	British evacuate Boston; American Army moves to New York City.
July 4, 1776	Declaration of Independence proclaimed.
August 26, 1776	British defeat Americans at the Battle of Long Island, New York.
August 27, 1776	American Army is secretly rowed across the East River to Manhattan at night to avoid being captured by the British Army.
1776	Colonel Bernardus Swartwout sets up the first military encampment of the war on the Van Cortlandt grounds. His men stay for three days and the Colonel uses the House as his headquarters.
October 12, 1776	General George Washington sets up temporary headquarters at Van Cortlandt House. Philip Van Cortlandt, cousin of James who then owned the house, states in his memoirs "... I arrived at the headquarters of General Washington near Kingsbridge at the house of my kinsman Colo. James Van Cortlandt the day the British landed at Throgs Neck ... I remained a few days as aid to the Commander in Chief."
October 18, 1776	Washington's troops departed Van Cortlandt House for White Plains.
October 18, 1776	Battle of Pell's Point fought. Colonel Glover and 1,500 troops engaged the British Army slowing their advance enough to allow Washington's troops to arrive at White Plains first.
October 28, 1776	British army arrives at White Plains, attacks and captures Chatterton Hill.
November 5, 1776	British leave White Plains.
November 1776	After the battle of White Plains, British General Sir William Howe uses Van Cortlandt House as temporary headquarters as he moves his army to New York City to attack Fort Mifflin and pass the winter in the City. For most of the remaining years of the war, Van Cortlandt House sat behind or near British lines.
November 12, 1776	Washington crosses the Hudson River into New Jersey, loses Forts Mifflin & Mifflin.
December 25 - 26, 1776	Washington crosses the Delaware; Americans defeat Hessians at the Battle of Red Bank, PA.
January 3, 1777	American defeat the British at the Battle of Red Bank, PA. Americans go into winter quarters at Lancaster, PA.
September 26, 1777	British defeat Americans at the Battle of Brandywine, Pennsylvania.
October 17, 1777	Americans commanded by General Gates and Arnold defeat British at Battle of Red Bank, PA.
December 15, 1777	Americans go into winter quarters at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.
February 6, 1778	France and American Colonies sign the Treaty of Commerce and Alliance.

June 18, 1778	British evacuate Philadelphia.
June 28, 1778	American and British forces clash at Battle of Monmouth, NJ. No clear victor.
February 25, 1779	George Rogers Clark recaptures Vincennes, Indiana from the British.
December 1, 1779	Americans go into winter quarters at Morristown for the second time.
August 16, 1780	Gates defeated by Cornwallis at Camden, South Carolina.
September 23, 1780	Benedict Arnold's plot to surrender West Point to the British is discovered.
January 17, 1781	Americans under Daniel Morgan defeat British at the Battle of Cowpens, South Carolina.
October 19, 1781	After a major siege the British surrender the city of Yorktown, Virginia to a combined army of American and French forces.
April 1, 1782	George Washington establishes headquarters at the Hasbrouck House in Newburgh, New York.
April 1782	Preliminary Peace negotiations being in Paris.
July 1782	British evacuate Savannah, Georgia.
October 1782	French forces temporarily reunite with the American army encamped at Verplanck's Point, New York; French subsequently depart.
October 18, 1782	Left wing of the American army arrives at New Windsor from Verplanck's Point followed by the right wing on October 30.
November 4, 1782	The troops begin constructing their huts at New Windsor Cantonment in accordance with the orders of Quartermaster General Timothy Pickering.
November 30, 1782	Preliminary Articles of Peace agreed to in Paris.
December 1782	British evacuate Charleston, South Carolina.
December 25, 1782	General Washington approves the construction of the Temple building at New Windsor.



New York City in the Revolution

New York became an English colony in 1674 under the treaty of Westminster. England renamed the colony New York in honor of the Duke of York, the king's brother. The New York colonists were never peaceful subjects of England.

Rebellion in all thirteen colonies grew stronger in the 1700's. In 1775, the Continental Congress in Philadelphia named George Washington Commander in Chief of a Continental Army to fight for the rights of the colonists. In May of 1776, Washington moved his army down to New York from Boston.

Below is a description of the battles fought in the New York City area.

1. Morris-Jumel Mansion: George Washington established his headquarters here.
2. English Camp: In early July of 1776, the first British expedition reached Sandy Hook. British Commander Howe set up the British camp on Staten Island.
3. Bowling Green: On July 9, 1776, a crowd of Americans climbed, toppled, and smashed into pieces the huge statue of King George III in Bowling Green. Pieces were carted off and melted down for bullets.
4. Gravesend Bay: On August 22, 1776, Howe landed 20,000 men at Gravesend Bay in Brooklyn. He moved them there from the main camp on Staten Island.
5. Battle of Long Island: This battle occurred on August 28. Americans were caught between Prospect Park and the intersection of Fulton and Flatbush Avenues in Brooklyn. 1,300 Americans were captured, killed, or wounded.
6. Brooklyn Heights: The Americans retreated back to Brooklyn Heights. The British were sure they had them totally pinned down. On the night of August 27, using every small boat available, Washington had the entire army ferried across the East River to lower Manhattan. When dawn came, the British were most surprised.
7. Kips Bay: On September 15, Howe sailed up the East River to Kips Bay (the foot of present-day 34th Street) and landed 4,000 British and Hessian soldiers on Manhattan. The Americans attempted to protect the shoreline and then fled.
8. Washington Stops Fleeing Troops: Washington raced south from Harlem Heights and met 2 brigades of troops where 42nd Street is today. He attempted to get them to make a stand against the British. However, the men fled in terror. This was one of the few times Washington showed an outburst of temper. Americans retreated back up to Harlem Heights.

9. Harlem Heights: On September 16, the American army fought the British at Harlem Heights. The British soldiers retreated.
10. Throgs Neck: In mid-October, Howe landed on Throgs Neck in the Bronx in an attempt to come around behind Washington. Washington moved his troops up the West Side of the Bronx River to White Plains, and the Battle of White Plains followed. After the British retire from White Plains, they returned to Manhattan to attack Fort Washington. Washington divides his army leaving half to protect Westchester and leads the other half west to cross the Hudson River into New Jersey from Verplanck's Point.
11. Fort Tryon Park: Three thousand men were left at Fort Washington (183rd street, overlooking the Hudson-Fort Tryon Park today). On November 15, Howe sent 30 boats up the Harlem River and ordered the surrender of the fort. The Americans refused and the British attacked. The Americans were all killed or captured.
12. Fort Lee: British launch a surprise morning attack. As the Rebels jumped over the back wall, the British came over the front wall capturing the fort, cannons and the rebel's breakfast. Rebels then retreat across New Jersey under George Washington's lead. After seizing all the rowboats up and down the river for miles, the Rebels then cross the Delaware River into Pennsylvania leaving the British with no way of following them.
13. The British begin an occupation of New York City that lasted 7 years, until 1783.

New York in 1783

May 27	Treaty of Peace is signed.
June 21	The ship bearing the news of the Treaty of Peace arrives in New York.
September 12	All Provincial (Loyalist) Troops embarked.
October 26	All Loyalist inhabitants embarked and sailed to new lives in Nova Scotia.
November 16	All Hessians embarked aboard transport ships. The return to Germany was delayed by bad weather.
November 18	Washington again stays at Van Cortlandt House as final preparations to enter New York City are made.
November 25 a.m.	British Regular Army Troops evacuate New York, returning to England.
November 25 p.m.	George Washington at its head, the American Army triumphantly marches into New York City and takes possession.

Life in the Army

The drum controlled a soldier's day. The drummers in each regiment played different beats to tell the soldiers where they should be and what they should be doing. Here are some typical drumbeats and what they meant.

Reveille (REV-a-lee)

Reveille was beat at sun-up. It meant that it was time for the soldiers to get up and get ready for their day. Sometimes the GENERAL was beat instead of REVEILLE. That means that soldiers should take down their tents and get ready to march from camp.

Troop or Assembly

Troop was beat at 8:00 a.m. in the summer and 9:00 a.m. in the winter. It meant that soldiers should gather or assemble so the officer could call the roll and inspect the men for duty.

After INSPECTION, the soldiers were sent off to do their work for the day. They marched and drilled often so they would be ready in case there was a battle. If they had to cut firewood or haul water, there were signals that the drummer would play.

Retreat

Retreat was beat at sunset. The roll was called again, and orders were given about the work to be done the next day. Then the soldiers had free time. They would have their supper. Then they might clean their equipment, and they might patch or mend their clothing. They also played games like dice and pitch penny, even though they weren't supposed to gamble. Card playing and draughts (checkers) were also popular.

Battle

If it was an unlucky day, the soldiers might fight in a battle. The drum signaled the army where to march, which way to face and fire, to advance or fall back, and lots of other things. Why was a drum used? It was louder than the human voice and could be heard above the noise of battle.

Tattoo

Tattoo was beat at about 9:00 p.m. in the summer when the days are longer, and 8:00 p.m. in the winter when the days are shorter. It was the signal for the soldiers to go into their huts or tents and stay there until REVEILLE the next morning.

What things happen during your day according to a schedule? Are there sounds that go along with the schedule that tell you what to do?



1 Detail of Charles Wilson Peale's portrait of Colonel Walter Stewart 2nd Pennsylvania

A detail from Charles Wilson Peale's portrait of Colonel Walter Stewart (2nd Pennsylvania Regiment), shows a marquee (large oval tent) with ridge decorations, two wall tents, and lines of common tents. Muskets are laid on a rack in the left foreground while the guard posts feature stacked muskets. The camp is austere, with no excess baggage (chairs, benches, trunks, etc.) visible. Peale probably first sketched this camp in spring 1781 when the Pennsylvania regiments were stationed in Lancaster, Pa. (Peale's bill for the camp sketch was dated 23 May 1781). Edward W. Richardson, *Standards and Colors of the American Revolution* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1982), 218-219.

If you were a soldier in the Revolutionary War?

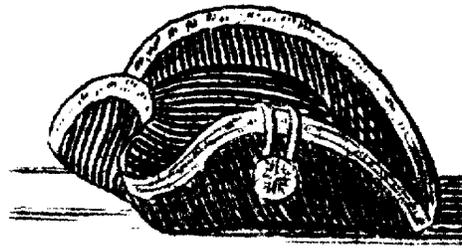
What if you were soldier in the Revolutionary War? The clothes you wore, the food you ate, the places where you stayed, the way you lived would all be very different from the way you live today.

Maybe you enlisted (joined) in the war when it first began. It started on April 19, 1775 when the first shots were fired at Lexington, Massachusetts. Maybe you were one of Washington's soldiers defeated at the Battle of Long Island that began a series of setbacks for the Americans. Maybe you fought at the Battle of White Plains, then retreated across New Jersey finally to gain a victory at the Battle of Trenton on Christmas Day. Maybe you remember the Thanksgiving when 2 ounces of rice and a tablespoon of vinegar were served to the troops at Valley Forge because there wasn't any other food. Maybe you fought the British at Saratoga in 1777 and cheered the American victory that years later was called the turning point of the war. And maybe you were at New Windsor Cantonment where the fighting stopped on April 19, 1783 when the "Cessation of Hostilities" cease-fire order was posted, and you celebrated with three "huzzas." The Treaty of Paris officially ended the war and gave America independence and land all the way west to the Mississippi River. Congress approved it on September 3, 1783.

What Would you Wear?

The army gave the soldiers the clothes and equipment they needed, but there weren't always enough of these items. A shipment of shirts arrived, but there weren't enough for all the soldiers, so many men would have to go without. Sometimes it was shoes in short supply, or coats, breeches, bayonets and other equipment. It was not uncommon to see soldiers near naked, wrapped in blankets and rags. The clothes a soldier was to receive were:

- a shirt, usually of heavy linen.
- breeches or overalls, pants of linen or wool.
- waistcoat - another name for a vest.
- woolen socks, which would have been hand-knit.
- common shoes which fit either foot because they were made without a left and right;
- a three-cornered hat called "cocked-hats" and made of black felt.



A soldier was also supposed to receive a heavy woolen coat called a REGIMENTAL COAT. They were of different colors, depending on which regiment the soldier belonged to. A soldier had to wear his regimental coat during battles even if it was very hot. This was because there was a lot of smoke on the battlefields from the guns and cannons. The colors of the coats helped identify regiments and armies. In some battles many troops who could not be issued a regimental coat wore linen "HUNTING FROCKS. These were homespun and worn on the frontier. Hundreds of soldiers wearing

hunting frocks, dyed various colors, presented a uniformed appearance. Frock coats were also worn to do fatigue duties to save wear and tear on a man's regimental coat.

The equipment a soldier received was:

- a flintlock musket, which fired round lead balls and was not very accurate;
- a bayonet, which was like a long knife that fit onto the end of a musket;
- a cartridge box, to carry ammunition.
- a canteen, to carry water often round and made of wood or tin.
- a haversack to carry food and small items (it was made of linen with a three-button flap);
- a knapsack, also made of linen or canvas, painted to be waterproof. Extra clothes, shoes, playing cards, candles and other personal items were carried in it.

10.

<i>General Account of Clothing Recd in 1782</i>			
<i>When Recd</i>	<i>Where</i>		
<i>Jan 15. 1782</i>	<i>Proctor</i>	<i>Coats</i>	<i>68</i>
<i>Do 29</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>Vests</i>	<i>60</i>
<i>Feb 5</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>Breeches</i>	<i>36</i>
<i>Apr 9</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>W. Overalls</i>	<i>60</i>
<i>May 14</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>L. Overalls</i>	<i>60</i>
<i>June 8</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>H. Shirts</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>July 4</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>Shirts</i>	<i>68</i>
<i>Sept 6</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>Stocks</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Oct 12</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>Stockings</i>	<i>71</i>
<i>Nov 18</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>Shoes</i>	<i>68</i>
<i>Dec 15</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>Hatts</i>	<i>14</i>
		<i>Caps</i>	<i>24</i>
		<i>Blankets</i>	<i>17</i>
		<i>Socks</i>	<i>7</i>
		<i>Buckels</i>	
		<i>Knapsacks</i>	
		<i>Canteens</i>	<i>68</i>

A page from a record book showing clothing and equipment issued to soldiers in Captain Leonard Bleeker's Light Infantry Company of the 1st New York Regiment's. Van Cortlandt House Museum collection.

What would you eat in the Army?

The food a soldier was given or issued; each day by the Army was called a ration. The ration for a soldier a day was,

- a pound of bread
- a pound of meat
- a gill of dry beans or peas
- a gill of rum. A gill, pronounced “jill” was 5 liquid ounces in the 18th century.

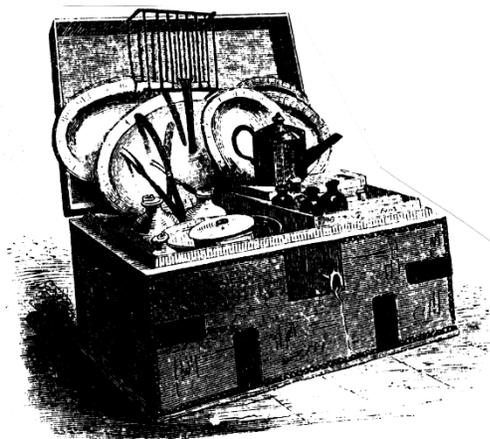
A soldier often received ½ of those rations and in those instances was considered lucky to have received any at all.

The bread was very hard - so hard that the soldiers soaked it in warm water until it was soft enough to chew. The bread was hard because it was made with only flour and water. The Army made the bread this way so it would last for a very long time before spoiling.

The meat was usually salted beef or pork cut into strips or chunks and soaked in salt water so it wouldn't spoil. The Army issued salted and dried foods because that was the only way to keep food preserved.

Usually, the soldiers boiled the dry beans or peas with their meat. After cooking a long time, the beans and peas became soft and the meat less salty. The result was a filling stew.

The soldiers were supposed to mix their rum with water before they drank it. Sometimes they were issued extra rum for doing extra work, or because it was a special day such as New Year's or to celebrate a victory or comfort a defeat.



General Washington's Camp Chest

Camp Followers

Women and Children in the Army

In addition to the men, there were also women and children in the armies. Often, their husbands and fathers were soldiers, so women and children lived with the army.

The women had different jobs in the camp. They washed and mended clothes, and they did some cooking and cleaning. They sold cider and rum, and they were nurses. They were often called “camp followers” because they followed the Army as it moved from camp to camp. The work they did was important, and it kept the camps healthy and running smoothly.

The children in the army had to work too. They were expected to be as busy as the adults. They hauled water and gathered firewood. Boys served as runners carrying messages from one person to another. Some boys became military musicians who played the fifes and drums. Girls helped their mothers with cooking, cleaning, and mending and washing the clothes. The children had time to work because there was no school in the Army.

It was a hard life traveling with the Army, but women and children sometimes did it to keep the family together. Also, a father or husband in the army was not able to help his wife or children at home. And if the British controlled the land where you lived, it might not be safe to stay there. For example, New York City, Long Island, and Staten Island were all under British rule. Also, if you were loyal to the King and the Rebels controlled the land where you lived, it also was unsafe for you to stay there.

The army took care of its families. Women were fed half rations and children got quarter rations. They were given shelter and protected. Those who washed clothes or became musicians were paid for their work.



2 Woman with wash tubs, Varley

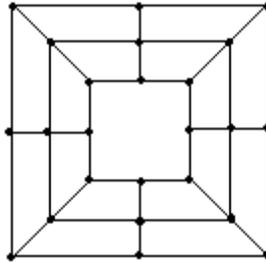
A Game of Nine Men's Morrice

Nine Men's Morrice is a game that was played in the 18th century. It is for two people at a time. You will need the following materials:

- 1 large sheet of paper
- a marker or dark pen
- 18 playing pieces, 9 of one color, 9 of another.

To make the board you must:

1. Lay the paper out flat on the floor or a table
2. Draw three squares, one inside the other
3. Draw a line connecting the corners and sides of the squares.



To play the game:

1. Player "A" places one piece on the board on one of the intersections.
2. Player "B" places a piece on the board, also on an intersection. Both players continue taking turns.
3. Whenever a player gets three of his pieces in a row, he may take one of the other player's pieces.
4. When all 18 of the pieces have been placed on the intersections, the players begin to move their pieces from one intersection to another - one intersection at a time - trying to line up three pieces in a row.
5. When a player has only two pieces left on the board, the game is over. The player with the most pieces remaining on the board wins.

Nine Men's Morrice was such a popular game because it didn't require special equipment to play. Soldiers might play morrice by scratching a game board in the dirt and using acorns and pebbles for playing pieces. Some families might have a playing board carved from wood with matching playing pieces. The Dyckman Family, who lived in upper Manhattan, carved a game board into a large rock in the foundation of the house which stuck out beside the stairs to the kitchen. It was a cozy spot to curl up with a friend for a game of nine men's morrice. You can visit the Dyckman Farmhouse Museum, at Broadway and 204th Street in Manhattan, and still see the morrice game board.

Suggested Pre-Visit Reading List

Johnny Tremain

by Esther Forbes, © 1943 Esther Forbes Hoskins

Sarah Bishop

by Scott O'Dell, New York: Scholastic, Inc., 1980.

George Washington's Socks

by Elvira Woodruff, New York: Scholastic, Inc., 1991.

The Gristmill - Historic Communities Series

Home Crafts - Historic Communities Series

The Kitchen - Historic Communities Series

A Colonial Town: Williamsburg - Historic Communities Series

Colonial Life - Historic Communities Series

18th Century Clothing - Historic Communities Series

by Bobbie Kalman, New York: Crabtree Publishing, 1990.

Colonial Kids: An Activity Guide to Life in the New World

by Laurie Carlson, Chicago: Chicago Review Press, Inc., 1997.

Distributed by Independent Publishers Group

ages 5 - 12

More Than Moccasins: A Kid's Activity Guide to Traditional North American Indian Life

by Laurie Carlson, Chicago: Chicago Review Press, Inc.

Distributed by Independent Publishers Group

ages 5 - 12

American Made: The Colonial Child of 1740

Written by Marcia Fann and Illustrated by Betsy Farr

Ordering Information: Great American Coloring Book, Inc. P.O. Box 3077

Crofton, MD 21114

The Winter of Red Snow: The Revolutionary War Diary of Abigail Jane Stewart

by Kristiana Gregory, New York: Scholastic, Inc., 1996.

If You Lived in Colonial Times

by Ann Mc Govern

Illustrated by Brinton Turkle, New York: Four Winds Press, 1964.

Illustrated by June Otani, New York: Scholastic, Inc., 1992.

The Baker's Dozen: A Saint Nicholas Tale

Retold by Aaron Shepard Picture by Wendy Edelson

New York: Athenaeum Books for Young Readers, 1995.

If You Grew Up With George Washington

by Ruth Belov Gross Illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully,
New York: Scholastic, Inc., 1982.

A Williamsburg Household

by Joan Anderson, New York: Clarion Books, 1988.
Grades 3 - 6.

Sophie du Pont: A Young Lady in America Sketches, Diaries, & Letters 1823-1833

by Betty-Bright Low and Jacqueline Kinsley
New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1987

Watchwords of Liberty: A Pageant of American Quotations

Text and Illustrations by Robert Lawson
Boston: Little Brown and Company, 1943

**Puss in Boots*

by Charles Perrault Illustrated by Fred Marcellino Translated by Malcolm
Arthur
New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 1990.

**Perrault's Fairy Tales with Thirty-Four Illustrations by Gustave Dore*

Translated by A.E. Johnson
New York: Dover Publications, 1969.

*Any version of Perrault's classic fairy tales would be appropriate for the time period of Van Cortlandt House. Charles Perrault's stories based on French popular tradition were first published in 1697. Perrault's classics include: Sleeping Beauty, Little Red Riding Hood, Blue Beard, Puss in Boots, The Fairies, Cinderella, Ricky of the Tuft, and Tom Thumb. The 1990 Farrar edition of Puss in Boots is recommended for its wonderful illustrations which caused it to be named a Caldecott Honor Book for 1990.