

3-3 – Patriots Gain New Hope- Pages 90-97

Essential Question: *How were Patriot forces able to overcome the many obstacles they faced in the war against Britain?*



Main Idea 1:

Many Americans contributed to the war effort.

- More than 230,000 soldiers served in Continental Army
- African Americans were at first banned from serving, but after the British promised them freedom, free African Americans were allowed to serve for the Patriots.
- ★ British offered freedom to any slave who served in their army.
 - Thousands of African-American slaves signed on with the British Army.
 - Native Americans who had been pushed off their land aided the British. The Patriots worked hard to keep other Native Americans neutral.
- ★ American Indians were most divided in its support of the Patriots' war effort.
 - Many women ran farms and businesses. Some served as messengers, nurses, or spies, and a few dressed as men to fight in the war.



Early Defeats

Defeat in Canada

- Some Patriots thought British-controlled Canada should be “14th colony”
- American forces under Generals Richard Montgomery and Benedict Arnold attacked Quebec
- Attack failed, and hopes of taking Canada faded

Defeat in New York

- New York City was first major battleground
- Washington's 23,000 militiamen opposed by General William Howe's 32,000 better-equipped British soldiers
- Several months of fighting
- Washington's forces pushed into New Jersey

Main Idea 2:

Despite early defeats by Britain, the Patriots claimed some victories.

- Washington's army in New Jersey faced German mercenaries fighting for Britain.
 - Mercenaries are foreign soldiers who fight not out of loyalty, but for pay.
- Washington decided to take the offensive.
- ★ Patriot leaders favored a defensive war believing that their supplies would last longer.
- Winning the battle in New Jersey was important to George Washington.
 - ★ The one-year contract many of his soldiers were fighting under was due to expire.
 - He knew soldiers would not reenlist in a losing army.
 - Crossed the Delaware River on Christmas night
 - Attacked the Hessians while they were still sleeping
 - Won Battle of Trenton on December 26, 1776
 - ★ Different from previous battles because the Patriots went on the offensive.
- Defeated British troops at Princeton on January 2, 1777

Main Idea 3:

Saratoga was a turning point in the war.

- British **upset** by two quick **defeats**
- British General John Burgoyne planned to seize **Hudson River Valley** to cut off **New England**
- British army **crushed** by **Patriot** forces under General **Horatio Gates** on October 17, 1777
- Battle of **Saratoga** was greatest **victory** yet by **Americans**
 - Was a turning point for the Patriots.
 - ★ The **Patriots** gained the support of **France** and **Spain**.
 - **Victory** gave Patriots **foreign** allies

Help for Americans

France

- Signed treaty of **support**
- **Marquis de Lafayette** supplied money and **military** skills
 - **Interested** in the American **Revolution**
- ★ He **believed** in the **rights** of all **nations** to **govern** themselves.

Prussia

- Baron Friedrich von Steuben trained **Continental Army**

Spain

- Bernardo de Gálvez, governor of **Spanish Louisiana**, seized **British** posts

Main Idea 4:

The winter at Valley Forge tested the strength of Patriot forces.

- Continental Army was **low** on **supplies**
- Washington and **12,000** men wintered at **Valley Forge**, Pennsylvania, during 1777–78.
- **Suffered** through the **brutal** winter and **shortages** of food, clothing, and **shelter**
- Winter at **Valley Forge** was a **difficult** time for the **Continental Army**.
- ★ The army **lacked** protection and **supplies**.
- Continental Army survived, but **2,000** died of **disease** and **malnutrition**

Main Idea 5:

The war continued at sea and in the West.

War at Sea

- **Tiny** Continental Navy could **not** fight large **battles**
- Patriots faced **challenges** at sea.
- ★ They had too few **ships** to fight large **battles** against the **British**.
- Sunk **hundreds** of individual **British** ships
- **John Paul Jones** was commander of **victorious** *Bonhomme Richard*

War in the West

- **George Rogers Clark** captured **British** trading village of Kaskaskia, Illinois, in 1778
- Clark's forces **won** Battle of Vincennes in **1779**
- **Patriots** faced **setbacks** in the **West**.
- ★ They did not **manage** to **capture** Britain's major **frontier** base.