Groups of Virginians during the American Revolution

**SOL 5.4.2 Describe the roles of various groups within Virginia during the American Revolution.**

**Teacher Notes**: In this activity, the teacher cuts the following scenarios into strips and places them in a pile at the center. The following student directions are also placed at the center. As students begin this center, the designated group leader will read the directions to the group. Students will work in pairs or groups. Each pair or group will draw a strip without sharing it with the rest of the group. Then they will create a verbal scene in which they show what it was like to be a part of the group they are representing. Other groups will guess what group they are representing based on the scene they create. Together the group will fill out the Roles of Virginians in the Revolutionary War section of the American Revolution study guide.

**Student Directions**: At this center, you will take on the role of actors. Get in groups of two or three and pick a strip from the pile. Read it silently in your own group, but **do not show it to anyone else in the rest of the group**. Work to create a conversation where you and your group members pretend to be whatever your strip says you are. **WHISPER WHILE YOU WORK SO NO ONE HEARS YOUR ROLE**. Write what you will say on slips of paper if you think you need to do so. You have **FIVE MINUTES** to prepare. Once you are done preparing, present your conversation to the group. **DO NOT TELL WHAT YOUR ROLE IS.** For example, if your strip says you are the King of England, do not say during your scene that you are a king. Let your group figure that out. Once everyone has presented and the roles have been discovered, together the group will fill out the **Roles of Virginians in the Revolutionary War** section of the American Revolution study guide.

1. You are women who lived during the American Revolution. Your husbands are fighting in the Continental Army and you have to take care of all the chores at home. Also, your husbands own a store together. So you have to run the store together while they are away.
2. You are American Indians who lived during the American Revolution. You are not a colonist and you did not come from England. Some of your friends are fighting for the Continental Army, but others are fighting for England. You can choose to fight for either army.
3. You are enslaved African Americans who lived during the American Revolution. One of your master’s is a Patriot, so you must fight for the Continental Army with him. One of your master’s is a Loyalist, so you must fight for the British Army with him. Both of your masters say they will let you be free after the war.

**Student Directions**

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2. Work to create a conversation where you and your group members pretend to be whatever your strip says you are. **WHISPER WHILE YOU WORK SO NO ONE HEARS YOUR ROLE**. Write what you will say on slips of paper if you think you need to do so. You have **FIVE MINUTES** to prepare.
3. Once you are done preparing, present your conversation to the group. **DO NOT TELL WHAT YOUR ROLE IS.** For example, if your strip says you are the King of England, do not say during your scene that you are a king. Let your group figure that out.
4. Once everyone has presented and the roles have been discovered, together the group will fill out the **Roles of Virginians in the Revolutionary War** section of the American Revolution study guide.

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