

NEW YORK
archives Jr!
Teaching Guide

Topic: Battle of Long Island

Issue: Special Edition Winter 2025

NYS Social Studies Framework:

4.3 COLONIAL AND REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD IN NEW YORK

4.3d Growing conflicts between England and the 13 colonies over issues of political and economic rights led to the American Revolution. New York played a significant role during the Revolution, in part due to its geographic location.

*Students will investigate the strategically important battles of Long Island and Saratoga.

NYS Social Studies Practices:

A. Gathering, Interpreting, and Using Evidence (2, 3, 5, 6)

C. Comparison and Contextualization (5)

D. Geographic Reasoning (1,)

NYS Next Generation ELA Learning Standards:

4R1: Locate and refer to relevant details and evidence when explaining what a text says explicitly/implicitly and make logical inferences.

4R3: In literary texts, describe a character, setting, or event, drawing on specific details in the text.

4R5: In literary texts, identify and analyze structural elements, using terms such as verse, rhythm, meter, characters, settings, dialogue, stage directions.

Notes about icons:



This icon is paired with observation questions to help students remember that to observe is to just look at what is in the document.



This icon is paired with inference questions to help students remember that to infer is to use what they observed paired with their own background knowledge to draw a conclusion.



This icon is paired with questions that require thinking about the worldview of those involved. This is to remind students to put on their “Worldview Glasses” and see things from the point of view of the people involved.



This icon is paired with questions that ask students to synthesize information from more than one source.

Big Ideas in this Issue: The Battle of Long Island (aka the Battle of Brooklyn), was a major battle in the American Revolution. Both the Americans and British wanted control of New York for its strategic location among the other British colonies as well as its excellent port. The Americans were outnumbered and defeated, but Washington was able to retreat under cover of fog, saving his army to fight another day. The British took control of New York City and would keep it until the end of the war.

Activities in This Issue:

Page 3 – “Take a Closer Look”

Students will read the poem *The Retreat from New York* at Consider the Source (or you could display it and do a whole class reading). On page 3 there are questions about the poem. Questions 1 and 2 have to do with the structure of the poem. Questions 3 & 4 address the “misspellings” as spelling was not yet standardized. Questions 5 & 6 ask students to infer who the author was and what his purpose was in writing the poem. Question 7 asks the students to use details from the poem to determine how the Battle of Long Island and the Battle of Harlem Heights ended.

Page 4 – “Learning Activity”

Students will analyze a map that shows what happened in the Battle of Long Island. A link to the map is given on the page 4 so that you may zoom in.

Online Activities:

Take a Closer Look Extensions:

- The Retreat from New York extension pages. This document is page 4 with more space for student responses.

Learning Activity Online Extras:

- Make an Historical Marker with facts about this event student activity page.
- The Importance of New York – Location
- The Importance of New York - Geography

These two activities are to help with student understanding of the importance of New York’s location and geographically features.



Connections

ELA

- By the Sword by Selene Castrovilla
- Triangle Histories of the Revolutionary War: Battles – Battle of Long Island by Scott Ingram
- Great Battles of the American Revolution for Kids by D.P. Michaels

Websites:

- Battle of Long Island from American Revolution .org <https://www.americanrevolution.org/battle-of-long-island/>
- Brooklyn, Long Island, August 27, 1776 from American Battlefield Trust - <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/revolutionary-war/battles/brooklyn>

Virtual Field Trips/Movies

- Museum of the American Revolution virtual tours -<https://www.amrevmuseum.org/learn-and-explore/360-degree-virtual-tours>
- The American Revolution Episode 3 by Ken Burns via PBS - <https://www.pbs.org/video/the-battle-of-long-island-brooklyn-6wkcol/>