Materials for *A Siege Becomes a Battle*

1. Greene Begins a Siege

These are excerpts from the beginning of Greene’s siege of Star Fort that help set the stage for the eventual assault.

*Greene Begins the Siege:*

*Greene ordered Kosciusko to dig another trench, this time beginning his parallel beyond the reach of Cruger…*

*The British made frequent sallies and there were hot little skirmishes, but Kosciusko drove relentlessly on a course parallel to a side of the big ditch around the Star…*

*As soon as Colonel Kosciusko had completed his second parallel [trench], he set his corps drilling a tunnel from the parallel to a spot under the earthen rampart. His plan was to place a mine under the breastwork and to explode it just ahead of an assault…*

*Militia units began reinforcing the Continentals, and from their ramparts the British could see the expansion of the American Army. But they watched in fear and ignorance, for the besiegers had completely sealed off the bastion…*

Robert Bass, *Ninety Six: The Struggle for the South Carolina Back Country* (Lexington, South Carolina: Sandlapper Store, 1978), 389.

2. Chain of Events Graphic Organizer

This organizer is designed to foster chronological thinking and summarizing information.

**Chain of Events Graphic Organizer**

**Draw the chain of events**

Outcome

Third event

Second event

First event

**Write about each event and the outcome**

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3. The Siege Ends in a Battle

These are excerpts from the events leading to Greene’s ill-fated assault on Star Fort.

*The Siege Ends in a Battle:*

*In spite of American diligence, during the night of May 31 a Loyalist messenger slipped through their cordon…*

*On June 5 the young Irish lord [Rawdon] wrote Cornwallis: “I shall march on the 7th toward Ninety Six.”… On June 7 he wrote: “I march this night and have great hopes of saving Cruger.”…*

*As General Greene read the dispatches from Marion and Sumter he realized that Lord Rawdon would reach Ninety Six before the American Army could be reinforced by the Carolina partisans. As he reviewed the possible strategy, he realized that there were three choices : He could turn and fight Rawdon, he could storm Star Fort or he could retreat from Ninety Six…*

*After listening to his commanders, Greene quickly came to a decision. He would storm Star Fort… He set the hour for the attack at high noon on June 18.*

*At noon American artillery opened against Star Fort. As the big guns hurled cannon balls and grapeshot over the ramparts, the sharpshooters swept the parapet with rifle balls…*

*British rifles and muskets cracked and roared from openings between the sandbags. With each volley wounded or dead Americans tumbled beneath the limbs of the abbatis…*

*When General Greene saw Campbell’s Continentals reeling back from the rampart, he ordered his bugler to sound retreat.*

Robert Bass, *Ninety Six: The Struggle for the South Carolina Back Country* (Lexington, South Carolina: Sandlapper Store, 1978), 395-405.