

Shoveling for Independence

How much dirt can you shovel? How many baskets can you weave? For many American and French soldiers at Yorktown, that was their primary job! In the British Army, approximately 2,000 slaves, who had been promised freedom, did much of the work of building their defenses.



Building an earthwork was a complicated task. Soldiers first had to make many wooden items that would help hold the dirt in place. Solve the Rebus puzzles below to find some of the names of the things the soldiers made. We've given you a sample to help you out.



- a = sod (soda - a)

Rebus puzzles were popular in the 1700s. In a Rebus puzzle, pictures take the place of words, letters and the "sounds of letters."



- m e + (c = s)

(sharpened, pointed stake)



- te + - s

(bottomless, wicker basket)



- n + - (p = c)

(long, slender branches, tied into bundles)

This is a type of earthwork found at stop "D" on the Battlefield Auto Tour:



- f + [2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64...] - l e + t =

Try making your own Rebus puzzle for the following:

Earthworks **Victory**

Protecting the Earthworks Today, Yorktown's earthworks help us tell the story of the 1781 siege. They are monuments to the skill and dedication of soldiers and men from both sides. It is important to care for and preserve these earthworks so they can continue to help visitors understand the importance of Yorktown and what happen here.

List three things you can do to help the National Park Service protect these valuable earthworks:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

The After"math" of Victory

Tackle the following math problems to uncover how numbers can help tell the story of the siege.

How outnumbered were the British?

General Washington's Army:
 American Forces: 9,000
 French Soldiers: 8,600
 Total in the Allied Army: _____



General Charles Lord Cornwallis' Army:
 British Forces: 6,300
 German Troops: 2,000
 Total in the British Army: _____

How many more soldiers were in General Washington's Army? _____

Visit Redoubts 9 and 10 on the Battlefield Auto Tour (or you can walk there from the visitor center). These redoubts were attacked by American and French forces on October 14, 1781.

How many American soldiers attacked Redoubt 10? _____ How many French soldiers attacked Redoubt 9? _____

How many British troops defended Redoubt 10? _____ How many British troops defended Redoubt 9? _____

The British were outnumbered by how many? _____ The British were outnumbered by how many? _____

How fast could you travel?



Approximately 2,000 American troops and 4,800 French soldiers made the journey from New York to Yorktown. The 450 mile journey took 41 days. How many miles did they average per day?

If you walk three miles per hour, how many hours would you need to walk to equal the daily distance the soldiers walked?

Artillery was a key.

The American and French cannon crews fired 15,437 cannonballs and bombs (exploding cannonballs) against the British over eight days. On average, how many cannonballs and bombs were fired each day?

The largest cannon at the siege were the French 24 pounders. No, the cannon did not weigh 24 pounds, but the cannonball it fired did. The 24 pounder cannon weighed 5,940 pounds! That would equal how many of you? (Hint - cannon weight divided by your weight!)

You can determine the weight of a British cannon from a series of three numbers, found on its breech (back end). The three numbers represent the number of hundredweights (112 pounds each), quarter hundredweights (28 pounds each), and the remaining pounds that, added together, give the cannon's weight. For example, the Lafayette Cannon, a 12 pounder, displayed in the visitor center is inscribed on the breech "21-1-24."
 What is the total weight of the cannon? $(21 \times 112) + (1 \times 28) + 24 =$ _____ pounds

The Spoils of War.

When the British surrendered, their military equipment and supplies became the property of the American and French armies. Travel to Surrender Field (Stop F on the Battlefield Driving Tour) to see some equipment the British had to give up.

What is on display at Surrender Field? _____

How many are on display? _____

Multiply the number on display _____ x 22

= _____ + 2 = _____ which is the total number of this item surrendered by the British.

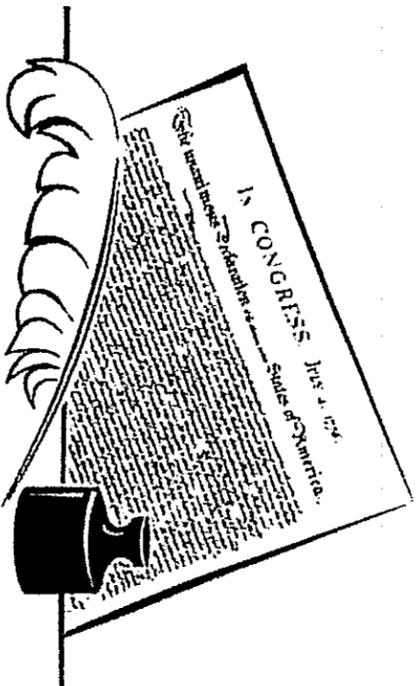


What Would You Risk?

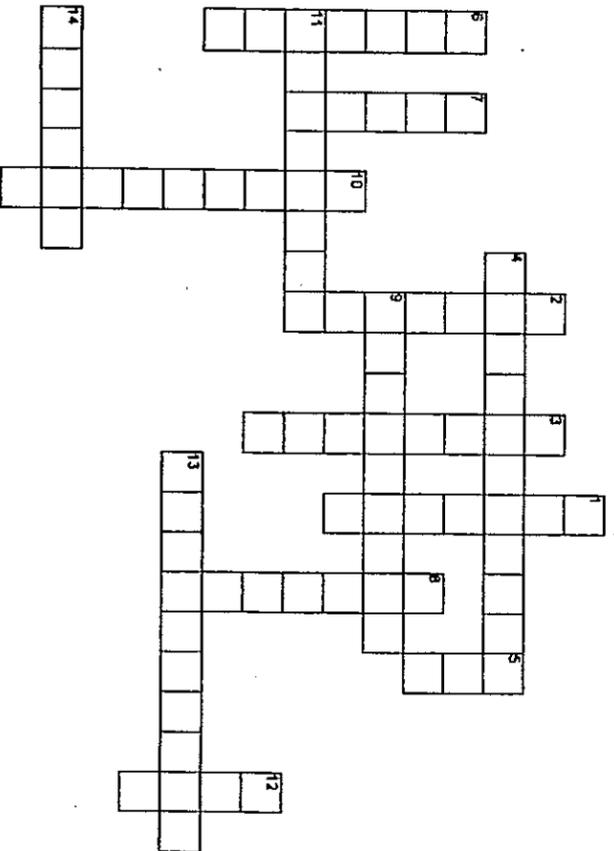
On July 4, 1776, the 56 delegates at the Continental Congress officially approved the Declaration of Independence. The Declaration specified the reasons why the 13 colonies were declaring independence from Great Britain. With the last sentence in the Declaration, the delegates stated their resolve towards forming the United States:

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

One of the signers of the Declaration of Independence was Thomas Nelson Jr. of Yorktown.



Thomas Nelson Jr.



Walk Yorktown's streets and discover the price Nelson, his family and his friends paid for independence with the help of this crossword puzzle.

ACROSS

- Found in an outer wall at the Nelson House.
- This Nelson's home on Zweybrucken Street was British headquarters (first "nickname").
- Commander of the troops who captured #14.
- He spent a lot of time in Yorktown in 1781, and he is still in the Nelson House garden.
- Yorktown resident captured by the British in June 1781 (last name).

DOWN

- According to the tombstone on Thomas Nelson, Jr.'s grave, "He gave all for?"
- Neighbor of Thomas Nelson, Jr. who served as lieutenant of position in #3 (last name).
- Thomas Nelson Jr. held this political office in 1781.
- Number of original 18th century buildings on Main Street today.
- Thomas Nelson, Jr. commanded these troops.
- Earthworks which encircle the town; the British _____ defense line.
- Yorktown resident held prisoner by the British during the siege (last name).
- The home in #9 was _____ during the 1781 siege.
- Place where #8 was kept prisoner.

If the American Revolution had failed, the signers of the Declaration of Independence might be viewed as traitors instead of founding fathers of the United States. Write two ways you think your life might be different if General Washington had not won a decisive victory at Yorktown, ensuring independence for the United States. For example: Would you celebrate July 4th?

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The Junior Ranger Program is partially funded through a donation from Eastern National



Yorktown Junior Ranger

Colonial National Historical Park
National Park Service
Department of the Interior



Welcome to Yorktown!

Here in 1781, General George Washington, commanding an army of French and American troops, defeated a British army. This was the last major battle of the American Revolutionary War. The victory secured independence for the United States. Because of Yorktown's importance to our nation's history, it is preserved as a site of the National Park system.

Park Rangers help care for our National Parks, including Yorktown. Become a Yorktown Junior Ranger by learning about the park, helping to care for it and completing this checklist of activities:

- See the film. Write one thing you learned from the film: _____
- Complete two of the following activity pages. _____
- Complete the National Park Service activity below. _____
- Attend a guided tour, program or visit a historic house. Write one thing you learned: _____

If no tour, program or historic house is available, complete ALL activities on the following pages. When you are done, go to the visitor center to be awarded your Junior Ranger patch!

Your National Parks

Solve this cryptogram to uncover the mission of the National Park Service. Each letter has been substituted with a number. We've given a couple of the letter/number combinations to help you start.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
2	23			17					24				26					1	15					8	3

9 14 C 23 14 20 15 17 1 8 17 9 22 17 15 23 17 20 17 1 3 4 20 11 9 22 17 E
 20 4 9 5 1 4 10 4 20 11 22 24 15 9 14 1 24 23 14 2 16 17 23 9 15 S
 4 20 11 9 22 17 E 7 24 10 11 10 24 13 17 9 22 17 1 17 24 20 9 14
 R V I E R 13 14 1 9 22 17 E E Y M E
 25 1 14 8 24 11 17 13 14 1 9 22 17 17 20 16 14 3 26 17 20 9 14 13 9 22 17 E
 S M E I S C M E R E R
 15 4 26 17 24 20 15 5 23 22 4 26 4 20 20 17 1 4 20 11 24 20 15 6 23 22 C
 4 M E S S V E V E M
 26 17 4 20 15 4 15 9 14 10 17 4 8 17 9 22 17 26 M
 5 20 24 26 25 4 24 1 17 11 13 14 1 R 13 5 9 5 1 17 R E
 E E R I S
 18 17 20 17 1 4 9 24 14 20 15 S

How can you help with this mission at Yorktown?

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Ages 10 and Up

You know you are in a National Park when you see this symbol:

