

Fall 2011

Over the next couple of weeks we will continue reading and studying about the American Revolution. To give an interesting visual depiction of the American Revolution, we will watch the film *The Patriot* (2000). There will be questions to answer as we watch the movie and an analysis and discussion when the movie is over. There will also be an extension activity after the movie has ended.

Here is the storyline from the International Movie Database (IMDB).

“It is 1776 in colonial South Carolina. Benjamin Martin, a French-Indian war hero who is haunted by his past, now wants nothing more than to live peacefully on his small plantation, and wants no part of a war with the most powerful nation in the world, Great Britain. Meanwhile, his two eldest sons, Gabriel and Thomas, can't wait to enlist in the newly formed "Continental Army." When South Carolina decides to join the rebellion against England, Gabriel immediately signs up to fight...without his father's permission. But when Colonel William Tavington, British dragoon, infamous for his brutal tactics, comes and burns the Martin Plantation to the ground, tragedy strikes. Benjamin quickly finds himself torn between protecting his family, and seeking revenge along with being a part of the birth of new, young, and ambitious nation.”

The film's depiction of the American Revolution provides for a great discussion of the various aspects of the American Revolution: the European style of fighting, the raising of a Continental Army, references to the French and Indian War, and the help of the French in waging the revolution, to name a few. The film has an “R” rating due to “strong war violence.” However, viewed in a safe environment, the film can be beneficial to the learning experience. If you do not want your child to see the movie, an alternate lesson plan will be made available.

Please sign and return the bottom portion of the page letting me know you read the above letter and agree/disagree to your son/daughter viewing *American Revolution*.

Thanks!

Robert Alvarado

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I give my son/daughter permission to view the movie

I do not give my son/daughter permission to view the movie.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_