

PBS Kids Writers Contest



Third Grade Lesson Plan

Voices of The American Revolution: Then and Now

Learning Objectives

Essential Question: “How can everyday people make a difference?”
Students will understand that history is often shaped by ordinary people
Students will identify point of view in writing

Introducing the American Revolution

When we learn about history, we often hear about famous leaders. During the American Revolution, everyday people made the biggest impact. Farmers grew food for their neighbors, printers shared ideas through newspapers, and children helped their families.

Visual Aid

Show or read aloud a short excerpt from a diary/letter written during the Revolutionary era. Discussion questions can include “Who do you think wrote this?” and “How do they feel?”

Writers Contest Connection

Students all across our state are sharing stories about ordinary characters doing extraordinary things!

Activity: POV Writing Practice

Introduce point of view as “the way a person sees and experiences what is happening.”

Have students practice writing as someone or something else. This can include:

A new student on their first day of school

A backpack that carries important things

A crossing guard on a busy morning

A dog protecting its family

Students can practice 2–3 sentences using “I” to show thoughts and feelings.

To prepare students for the prompt, have them think about these important questions:

Who am I?

What is my problem or goal?

How do I try to make a difference?

Writers Contest Prompt: “Write a story from the point of view of a character who experiences something important.”

Focus on the character’s thoughts, feelings, and actions.

