

My Journey Home Family Connection

This week your child is reading *They Called Her Molly Pitcher*, a selection about the remarkable bravery of Mary Hays, a Revolutionary War heroine known as Molly Pitcher.

DAY
1

Vocabulary on the Go Do you think that soldiers in the Continental Army felt that they could win the war? Use some of these words as you exchange your opinions. Make sure you support your opinions with good reasons.

strategy retreat foes revolution

DAY
2

Think It Over A woman on the battlefield was an unusual sight during the Revolutionary War. Discuss some of the reasons why people at that time didn't think women should be soldiers. Do you agree with them? Why or why not?

DAY
3

Brave Women Together, identify and discuss female family members, friends, or women in your community who have acted bravely in some aspect of their lives.

CHALLENGE

Help your child draw or create a "badge of honor" for one of these women. List the woman's accomplishments beneath a picture of her.

Their Stamp on History Read and discuss this selection with your child.

Stamps Issued to Celebrate Our Country's Birthday

WASHINGTON, DC — Some heroes of the American Revolution have had their stories recorded for posterity, like Molly Pitcher. But the contributions of thousands of other valiant colonists remain unknown. To honor the bravery of four unfamiliar heroes of the American Revolution, the U.S. Postal Service issued special commemorative stamps to celebrate our country's birthday.

Brave heroes, pop culture icons, historical milestones, ethnic celebrations—all these and more have also been featured on com-

memorative stamps. Since 1893, when the first such stamp was created, the Postal Service has issued new stamps to recognize subjects of national importance. Though stamps have varied greatly in shape and size and the images on them, they all serve to remind us of the unique character and history of our nation.



It's in the Mail Together, look at the stamps you've received in the mail recently. What images and information are shown? Find out about the history of postage stamps by finding information in books or on a website such as the U.S. Postal Service or the National Postal Museum.

CHALLENGE

Ideas for U.S. postage stamps are accepted from the public. Help your child draw a stamp design to commemorate a person, group, or event.



Book Links

- *This Time, Tempe Wick?* by Patricia Lee Gauch
- *The Real Benedict Arnold*, by Jim Murphy **CHALLENGE**



Internet Challenge

Together, search the Internet for information about another Revolutionary hero. Learn a few facts about how this person helped the colonies win the war against the British.

**They Called Her
Molly Pitcher**
Home Letter

Home Letter

Dear Family,

Throughout the week, students will consider the question, “How do individual acts of bravery shape history?” Our first example of one person’s act of bravery is **They Called Her Molly Pitcher**, a narrative nonfiction selection. When her husband is wounded in battle, Molly steps in and fires a cannon in his place, helping to rout the British Redcoats. Then we will read a play, **A Spy for Freedom**, based on a real spy, Ann Darragh.

This week’s...

Target Vocabulary: legendary, formal, gushed, strategy, retreat, foes, shimmering, magnificent, revolution, plunged

Vocabulary Strategy: Reference materials

Comprehension Skill: Conclusions and generalizations—use details to explain ideas that are not stated or are generally true

Comprehension Strategy: Analyze/evaluate—think carefully about the text and form an opinion about it

Writing Focus: Opinion writing
persuasive letter

Activities to Do Together

Vocabulary

Spend time with your child looking up synonyms of the **Target Vocabulary** in a thesaurus. Then have a conversation about the American Revolution, using as many of the words as you can.

Heroes Everywhere

Talk with your child about acts of bravery. They can happen anywhere, not just in a war or during an emergency. Discuss the kind of bravery it takes to stand up for a belief.

Join the Cause

Discuss with your child a cause in your community that needs volunteers. Have your child write a letter to a friend persuading him or her to help.



Go to the *eBook* to read and listen to this week’s selection.

They Called Her Molly Pitcher

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. conflict | 22. illustrate |
| 2. orphan | 23. function |
| 3. instant | 24. conscience |
| 4. complex | 25. apostrophe |
| 5. simply | |
| 6. burglar | |
| 7. laundry | |
| 8. laughter | |
| 9. employ | |
| 10. anchor | |
| 11. merchant | |
| 12. improve | |
| 13. arctic | |
| 14. mischief | |
| 15. childhood | |
| 16. purchase | |
| 17. dolphin | |
| 18. partner | |
| 19. complain | |
| 20. tremble | |
| 21. anthem | |

Name _____ Date _____

**They Called Her
Molly Pitcher**
Vocabulary Word Cards

legendary

foes

formal

shimmering

gushed

magnificent

strategy

revolution

retreat

plunged

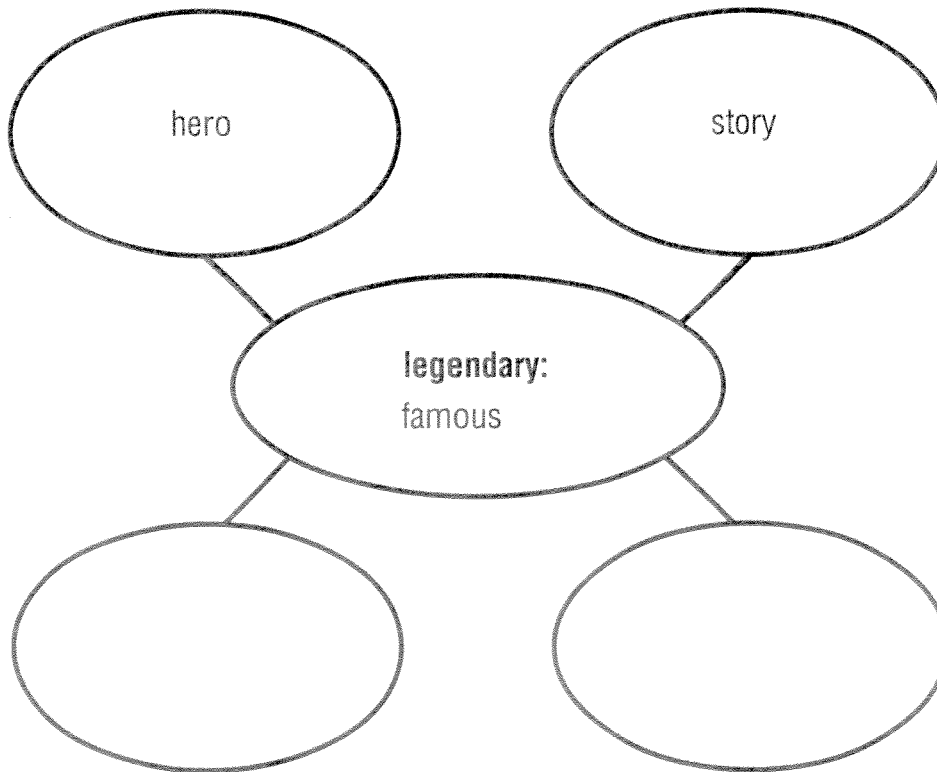
**The Battle of
Monmouth**
Target Vocabulary

Target Vocabulary

Complete the Web with words that relate to the Target Vocabulary word in the center. Then use one of the related words in a sentence with the Target Vocabulary word. Make Webs and write sentences for five of the other Target Vocabulary words on a separate sheet of paper.

Vocabulary

| | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|
| legendary | formal | gushed |
| strategy | retreat | foes |
| shimmering | magnificent | revolution |
| plunged | | |



Sentence:

Reference Materials

**They Called Her
Molly Pitcher****Vocabulary Strategies:**
Reference Materials

Read the thesaurus entries below. Then fill in the blanks to complete the sentences.

assist (v.) contribute; help

reckless (adj.) risky; foolish

illuminate (v.) brighten; light up

observe (v.) watch

1. Two synonyms for *assist* are _____ and _____.
2. Something that is *reckless* is _____.
3. *Watch* is a synonym for _____.
4. Two synonyms for *illuminate* are _____ and _____.
5. *Risky* is a synonym for _____.

Name _____ Date _____

Reference Materials

**They Called Her
Molly Pitcher**

Vocabulary Strategies:
Reference Materials

On the lines below, write a sentence using each word from the box and a synonym for that word. Use a thesaurus to help you find synonyms.

Word Bank

luminous

festive

conclude

blurry

Reference Materials

**They Called Her
Molly Pitcher**
Vocabulary Strategies:
Reference Materials

Match each word in Column 1 to its synonym in Column 2.

Use a thesaurus or a dictionary to help you.

Column 1

Column 2

1. stagger

A. deserving

2. justified

B. glowing

3. worthy

C. sway

4. foggy

D. reasonable

5. luminous

E. blurry

6. Draw a picture below of something that is **luminous**.