



Moore's Creek National Battlefield Education Guide



The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge

This is the site of the first Patriot victory of the American Revolution, a war for Independence. The years before the battle saw a great division of the people in North Carolina. The colony became evenly divided between the Loyalist (supporters of the British Crown), Patriots (those who opposed British control), and those who remained neutral. The battle at Moores Creek Bridge was fought between Loyalist and Patriot militia. There were no regular British or American Continental troops involved in the battle. Many of the Loyalist were Scottish Highlanders who had been forced out of Scotland by the English king. Upon coming to the British colonies in America, they took up an oath to support and defend the British Crown.

The battle was brief, lasting just three minutes. The Loyalist forces were overwhelmed by a smaller Patriot force defending the bridge at Moores Creek, halting their advancement towards Brunswick Town on the old Negro Head Point Road. This was due, in part, to the Patriots determination and superior leadership. Another Patriot victory at Sullivan's Island in South Carolina sent the British away from the South, keeping the South free from British rule for nearly four more years. The Patriot victory at Moores Creek led the North Carolina Provincial Congress to seek total independence from Great Britain, the first colony to do so.



"Old Mother Covington and Her Daughter"

About Moores Creek National Battlefield

In 1856, the first efforts were made to preserve the historic site of the first Patriot victory of the American Revolution. The first monument (Grady Monument) was erected in 1857, commemorating the life lost in gaining Independence. In 1899, the Monumental Association (now Battleground Association) was chartered to administer the site. The Monumental Association controlled all aspects of ensuring that the park would be there for future generations. In 1926, Moores Creek Military Park was transferred from the state to the U.S. War Department, and in 1933, it was transferred to the National Park Service under the Department of the Interior.

Moores Creek National Battlefield is significant, state-wide and nationally, because it:

- Works to preserve the historical site where Patriots withstood a Loyalist attack, securing North Carolina's fate in their push for Independence. The bridge-site and the earthworks are the original remains of this 18th-Century battlefield (the bridge and earthworks have been reconstructed, but the locations are precise).
- Works to maintain a portion of the historic Negro Head Point Road that connected the port city of Wilmington to the inner portions of the state. It still runs through the park today and was the reason why there was a battle in this area.
- Preserves and protects the physical and natural resources associated with the Naval Stores Industry. North Carolina was the largest producer of Naval stores in the world around the time of the American Revolution, and was the main supplier to England, which relied on naval stores to keep their massive navy afloat. The presence of many long-leaf pine trees in the park is an example of the NPS's effort to preserve and revitalize the declining population.
- Offers visitors the opportunity to experience first-hand the environment that surrounded the battle on February 27, 1776. The 87-acre park allows the visitor to walk along trails, weaving in and out of forests, swamps, and savannahs, escaping the 21st century and returning to a time when America was still small, and life was very different.



Moore's Creek Bridge Monument located on the east side of Moore's Creek Bridge

Sequence of Activities

1. Pre-Visit (Warm-Up)

-Activities to be done before visiting Moore's Creek National Battlefield

2. On-Site (Teacher Input, Guided Practice, Independent Practice)

-Activities to be done on-site at Moore's Creek National Battlefield

3. Post-Visit (Assessment)

-Activities to be done in the classroom after visiting Moore's Creek National Battlefield

All resources can be found on the Moore's Creek National Battlefield web site:
<http://www.nps.gov/mocr/forteachers/index.htm>

Pre-Visit (Warm-Up):

Students should be made aware of the key points about the battle by completing the Pre-Visit activities, some required, and some optional.

All resources can be found on the Moores Creek National Battlefield web site:
<http://www.nps.gov/mocr/forteachers/index.htm>

1. Words to Know (Required)

a. Words to Know is a short list of Revolutionary War-era terms that are important to comprehend in order to fully understand the battle.

b. 10 minutes

2. The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge Review (Required)

a. The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge Review is a short review of the events leading up to, during, and after the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge. It provides the students with an opportunity to read, and then answer ten multiple choice questions at the end. Students will be able to apply their knowledge attained from the “Words to Know” exercise, and they will gain a better understanding of what occurred here at this battlefield more than two centuries ago.

b. 15 minutes- read and answer questions

3. Patriot vs Loyalist (Optional)

a. Patriot vs Loyalist is short booklet that provides essential information as to who a Loyalist or Patriot was. It gives some background information as to why they fought for their specific side, and allows the students to get a more in-depth understanding before they come to the park.

b. 10 minutes- reading and discussion

4. Character Sketch (Optional)

a. The Character Sketch booklet gives a brief look into the lives of the major names associated with this battle. It covers the soldiers fighting in the battle, as well as the women whose names have forever been attached to this site. Each of these “characters” played a significant role in the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge, and this battle forever changed their lives. Allow students to read through this booklet individually or as a class. When students tour the park with the Interpreter/ Park Ranger, they may be called upon to answer questions, and this activity will better prepare them to answer questions.

b. 30 minutes- reading and discussion

c. For Advanced students/ classes- Assign a character and have them do some research and record a few key details about their involvement in the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge.

On-Site (Teacher Input, Guided Practice, Independent Practice):

Students will develop a more in-depth understanding of the content associated with the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge by completing the On-Site activities.

The activities in this Educators Guide lesson plan can be substituted for other activities that might fit your classroom needs more precisely. The other activities are included- just substitute as needed.

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<http://www.nps.gov/mocr/forteachers/index.htm>

Teacher/ Instructor Input:

1. Moores Creek National Battlefield Orientation/ Introduction

a. A Park Ranger/ Interpreter will welcome the students to Moores Creek National Battlefield and give them a brief introduction into the history of Moores Creek National Battlefield as well as the National Park Service.

b. 5 minutes

2. Weapons Demonstration

a. A Park Ranger/ Interpreter will introduce and instruct students in the weaponry used at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge.

b. 5 minutes

3. Video- "In the Most Furious Manner"

a. This is a brief video filmed on location and is a reenactment of the battle sequence that took place on the cold, dark morning of February 27, 1776.

b. 10 minutes

Teacher/ Instructor Guided Practice

4. Guided Tour- History Trail

a. A Park Ranger/ Interpreter will give a very informative guided tour of the History Trail, which starts just outside the back door of the visitors center and takes them back into time along parts of the historic Negro Head Point Road, through the battlefield, over the swampy terrain, and across the famous Widow Moores Creek Bridge, the centerpiece of the battle and park.

b. 60 minutes

5. History Trail Map (to be completed during the Guided Tour Activity (4))

a. The History Trail Map is an activity designed to keep the students involved and interactive with the Guided Tour. Students are given the worksheet, which includes a map and labeled locations along the trail. As they tour the trail, students will choose which monument/ location/ feature best suits the letter of that location on the map. This activity allows the students to improve their map reading skills as well. An answer key is included to assist the teacher in grading.

b. 60 minutes/ in collaboration with the Guided Tour Activity (4)



The boardwalk over the swamp, and over Moores Creek, to Caswell's Campsite

Independent Practice

6. Scavenger Hunt- Visitor Center

a. Students should already be in groups. They will complete this activity in the Moores Creek National Battlefield Visitors Center. This activity encourages the students to read all of the events on the time line, maps, signs, and displays to find the answers to the questions. This activity involves local and national events significant to the NCSCOS. An easier activity sheet is also available for lower-level students or lower-grade students to allow this activity to be completed by all levels of learners.

b. 30 minutes

7. Scavenger Hunt- History Trail

a. The Scavenger Hunt- History Trail is designed to familiarize the students with the park by taking an in-depth look at the waysides, monuments, and signs along the trail. Students should be broken into groups of 2 to 3 students (no smaller than two people per group). Groups will work together to find the locations of the pictures in the Scavenger Hunt using the map provided. Upon finding a picture, write down the location that it corresponds to on the map. The map should be used as a guide to help the students find the locations of the items in the Scavenger Hunt. This incorporates reading and team work. Upon completion, students should return to Patriots Hall to receive there next mission/ activity.

b. 30-45 minutes



"Old Mother Covington's Daughter", a half-pound swivel gun

Post-Visit (Assessment)

8. First In Freedom Timeline

a. This Foldable is a great review tool for students. Once printed out following the directions attached to it, the foldable can be folded and cut to reveal a review guide of the events leading up to and after the Battle of Moores Creek. The activity will also work if the students create their own foldable, copying the information onto their own piece of paper. The foldable aligns with the NCSCOS for 8th and 10th grade, but also falls into many other subject areas.

b. 10 minutes (30 minutes if the students write out the information on their own)

9. Jeopardy (Optional)

a. The Jeopardy game combines information about the Battle of Moores Creek with information about the events leading up to, during, and after the American Revolution. It is a group game and is a great tool for review. The Jeopardy game is easy to use- it just requires you to have PowerPoint. This activity can be found on the Moores Creek web site.

b. 45 minutes

10. Battle of Moores Creek Bridge Test

a. The test is a great tool to gauge student learning from their field trip experience to Moores Creek National Battlefield. Questions pertain to events leading up to, during, and after the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge, encompassing local, state, and national events that occurred around the time of the American Revolution. It aligns with the NCSCOS.

b. 30 minutes

11. Video- "Friends of Liberty" (Optional)

a. This video is a good review for all things revolutionary. This video sums up the events leading up to, during, and after the American Revolution, as well as the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge. This video can be borrowed from the park upon request.

b. 52 minutes

Moore's Creek National Battlefield

Interpretive Themes

1. Fought by militia on both sides, these citizen soldiers displayed dedication and commitment to their causes. The battle of Moore's Creek was the first decisive American victory of the Revolutionary War. The battle launched the struggle for freedom and independence.
2. The victory ended royal authority in North Carolina, and led to the state being the first to instruct its delegates in the Continental Congress to vote for independence. The events of July in Independence Hall can trace their roots to a cold February day at Moore's Creek.
3. Moore's Creek was the site of the last Scottish Highland broadsword charge, reflecting the changing nature of warfare with new weapons and tactics in the late eighteenth century. The dying battlefield tactics of the Scots was a tradition passed down through generations, and met its end at Moore's Creek.
4. Travelers, traders, and everyone in the area were affected by the war, whether they actively took a side or not. The war divided families and communities, illustrating the difficult decisions faced by people of the state as they grappled with questions of duty, loyalty, dedication, and service.
5. Physical features such as the road, waterways, and tar kilns speak to the diverse people who worked and lived in the region. The road was route of trade and travel, bondage, and freedom. The tar kilns represent exploitation, profit, and the settler's impact on the environment.
6. The naval stores industry was the dominant economic activity of southeastern North Carolina. It defined the region, employing large numbers of enslaved people and bringing Gullah culture to the area. The naval stores industry impacted the landscape by accelerating the disappearance of the long leaf pine. North Carolina was the largest colonial supplier of naval stores to the British empire, keeping the royal navy afloat and contributing to colonial protests over taxes and trade policies that led to the war.
7. The savanna preserves several rare and threatened species of plants and wildflowers, and provides critical habitat for wildlife. It is part of the natural and historical ecosystem in which the battle was fought, and provides for connection with natural resources native to Southeastern North Carolina.
8. The creek, swamp, bridge site, earthworks, and other features allow for firsthand discovery of and connection with the terrain that the Patriots used to their advantage to secure the victory.

North Carolina Standard Course of Study

8th Grade- North Carolina History

Competency Goal 2- The learner will trace the causes and effects of the Revolutionary War, and assess the impact of major events, problems, and personalities during the Constitutional Period in North Carolina and the new nation.

- 2.01 Trace the events leading up to the Revolutionary War and evaluate their relative significance in the onset of hostilities.
- 2.02 Describe the contributions of key North Carolina and national personalities from the Revolutionary War era and assess their influence on the outcome of the war.
- 2.03 Examine the role of North Carolina in the Revolutionary War.
- 2.04 Examine the reasons for the colonists' victory over the British, and evaluate the impact of military successes and failures, the role of foreign interventions, and on-going political and economic domestic issues.
- 2.05 Describe the impact of documents such as the Mecklenburg Resolves, the Halifax Resolves, the Albany Plan of Union, the Declaration of Independence, the State Constitution of 1776, the Articles of Confederation, the United States Constitution, and the Bill of Rights on the formation of the state and national governments.

10th Grade- Civics and Economics

Competency Goal 1- The learner will investigate the foundations of the American political system and explore basic values and principles of American democracy.

- 1.01 Describe how geographic diversity influenced economic, social, and political life in colonial North America.
- 1.02 Trace and analyze the development of ideas about self-government in British North America.
- 1.03 Examine the causes of the American Revolution.
- 1.04 Elaborate on the emergence of an American identity.

Documents

The next section contains activities that correspond to the sequence of events listed in the Curriculum Guide.

There are four sections:

- Pre-Visit
- On-Site
- Post-Visit
- Other Useful Activities

Each section contains numbered documents which relate to it's corresponding activity in the Curriculum Guide.

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Pre-Visit (Warm-Up):

Students should be made aware of the key points about the battle by completing the Pre-Visit activities, some required, and some optional.

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Activity #	Activity	Page(s)
1	Words to Know	(p. 14)
2	The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge Review	(p. 15-18)
3	Patriot vs Loyalist	(p. 19-23)
4	Character Sketch	(p. 24-34)

Words To Know

Directions: Before you come to Moores Creek National Battlefield, there are a few words you should know. These will be important in understanding the events that occurred leading up to, during, and after the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge.

“Brown Bess” Musket

- standard weapon of both the Patriot and Loyalist forces, as well as the Continental and British soldiers
- very inaccurate beyond 50 yards

Bayonet

- An edged weapon that, when attached to the barrel of a musket, transforms the firearm into a spear-like weapon
- Used in hand-to-hand fighting

Broadsword

- The traditional weapon of the Scottish Highlanders
- It was a large sword sharpened on both sides with a distinctive basket-hilt around the handle to protect the carriers hand in combat

Earthworks

- Trenches or embankments made of earth constructed as a military fortification
- Earthworks are usually constructed for defensive purposes

Militia

- Local, part-time soldiers serving the state or local governments
- Made up primarily of farmers, tradesmen, and merchants

Loyalist

- Name given to those colonists still loyal to King George III and England during the American Revolution
- These people supported the British forces with supplies, information, and manpower
- Also known as Tories

Patriot

- Name given to those who fought for independence from English rule
- Also known as Whigs

Naval Stores

- Tar, pitch, and turpentine
- England relied on naval stores and North Carolina was the largest producer and exporter of naval stores in the world around the time of the American Revolution
- Following the Battle of Moores Creek, England was forced to find another source for naval stores, which England relied on to maintain their massive navy

The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge Review

North Carolina was first governed by a Legislative body known as the General Assembly. The colonists elected members to that Assembly. However, in 1721 the British appointed a Royal Governor to control North Carolina. Disputes erupted between the Royal Governor and the General Assembly. The colonists became angry because the governor could overturn any law the assembly passed. They were forced to abide by laws they had no part in making. Colonists also had no representation in the British parliament.

The British told the colonists whom they could trade with and instructed them to form militias for the governor's use. The British began to tax the colonies for paper goods and tea in order to pay off debts incurred during the French and Indian War. Revolts against taxation began to occur throughout the colonies, including North Carolina. The colonists began to separate into groups: the Patriots who opposed the British and the Loyalists who supported the Crown.

In 1775, disputes between Josiah Martin, North Carolina Royal Governor, and the colonists became unbearable. As a means of discouraging the use of force by Martin, the Patriot militia companies were called out in New Bern and the surrounding countryside, with the avowed purpose of opposition to royal authority. With the mounting wave of resistance forecasting violence and upheaval, the governor began to fear for his life. Gov. Martin fled Tryon Palace (his home) in New Bern, to a British ship off the coast of Wilmington. Safe on the ship, Martin developed a plan to re-take North Carolina. His plan called for Britain to send troops while he recruited Loyalists in the area. The Loyalists were to rendezvous with the British troops in Brunswick, near Wilmington. Gov. Martin would supply weapons to the Loyalists and lead them in subduing North Carolina and returning it to British rule.

Gov. Martin believed 10,000 Loyalists could be recruited in the colony. The governor had friends in Cross Creek (Fayetteville), so he sent Alexander McLean to recruit his supporters there. Along with McLean, two British army officers, Gen. Donald MacDonald and Lt. Col. Donald McLeod (Scottish Highlanders) were sent to Cross Creek because of their ability to speak Gaelic. Cross Creek had been settled by Scottish Highlanders, and their native language was Gaelic. At Cross Creek they recruited only 1600 Loyalists to fight, the majority of whom were Scots. These Scots were to receive 200 acres of land, would not have to pay taxes for 20 years, and be reimbursed for the supplies they used. The Loyalists then set out for the coast near Wilmington.

The Patriots learned of Martin's plan. Three officers were deployed: Colonel James Moore, Colonel Richard Caswell and Colonel Alexander Lillington. Colonel Moore, the commander, blocked the most direct route to the sea at Rockfish Creek near Cross Creek. When Moore had established his troops there, Gen. MacDonald and the Loyalists were forced to use Negro Head Point Road, a route that crossed Moores Creek. Col. Lillington and his 150 minutemen were sent to block Moores Creek Bridge. Lillington's men built earthworks on the east bank of the creek, in sight of the bridge. Caswell and his 850 militiamen were the next to arrive at the creek. They brought two pieces of artillery. Old Mother Covington was a 2 ½ pound cannon and Her Daughter, a ½ pound swivel gun. Col. Caswell and some of his men set up camp on the west bank of the creek.

Meanwhile, the Loyalists had traveled within six miles of the bridge. The Loyalists sent a messenger to the Patriot camp under a flag of truce. The messenger informed the Patriots that they would be pardoned if they would surrender and declare their loyalty to the king. The Patriots refused and sent the messenger back. However, the messenger had secured important information. He reported to MacDonald that the Patriots were camped with the creek to their backs. Gen. MacDonald, who wanted to move his troops to the coast without engaging in battle, fell ill, and Lt. Col. McLeod assumed command of the Loyalists.

Later that evening, Caswell moved his men to the east bank of the creek joining Col. Lillington's Patriots. After everyone was across, Caswell's men removed some of the planks from the bridge. They left the tents up and the campfires burning on the west bank to make the Loyalists believe they had just left the camp.

On February 27, 1776 at 1 am, the Loyalists started their march to Moores Creek. They arrived at daybreak to find Caswell's camp empty. McLean saw some men on the other side of the bridge. The men asked McLean if he was a friend. McLean replied, "to the King." The men fell back to the earthworks. McLean then called out to the men in Gaelic. There was no reply. He realized the men were Patriots and reported this to Lt. Col. McLeod.

Lt. Col. McLeod rallied his troops and moved to the bridge, where he discovered that the planks had been removed. To the cry of, "King George and Broadwords," the Loyalists crossed the girders. As they charged along the causeway, they met the cannon and musket fire of the Patriots. Loyalists fell along the road and on the bridge, some drowning in Moores Creek.

Within minutes the battle was over. Over 30 Loyalists were killed, including Lt. Col. McLeod. One Patriot, John Grady, died from wounds sustained in the battle and one other was injured. The remaining Loyalists fled for safety. Some of them were captured and imprisoned, including Gen. Donald MacDonald. The Patriots, who numbered about 1000, had defeated 1600 Loyalists.

After the battle, captured Loyalists who were not officers were released after taking an oath not to raise arms against the Patriot cause in the future. The officers, however, were incarcerated in Halifax, North Carolina, which was soon bulging with Loyalist prisoners of war.

The Patriot victory at Moores Creek, which was the first Patriot victory of the American Revolution, convinced North Carolina to instruct its delegates to the Second Continental Congress to vote for independence from Great Britain. This made North Carolina the first of the colonial governments to call for total independence.

In May 1776, the British fleet, after battling high winds and heavy seas for more than two months, finally dropped anchor in the Cape Fear River. After hearing of the Patriot victory at Moores Creek Bridge, the British fleet sailed for Fort Sullivan, near Charleston, South Carolina. On June 28, the British ships opened fire upon the half-completed fort and its 413 patriot defenders. From 11:00 A.M. to about 9:30 P.M., the British ships continuously fired, and the Patriots returned fire with their twenty-five guns.

The fort's palmetto logs did not splinter when hit and the sand absorbed the shots. The British fleet abandoned the fight and sailed to the North where the war would be fought for the next four years. The British would not invade the South again until 1780.

Multiple Choice

1. From what country were the majority of the Loyalist originally from?
 - a. England
 - b. Ireland
 - c. France
 - d. Scotland
2. How many Loyalists did Governor Martin believe he could recruit?
 - a. 1100
 - b. 1000
 - c. 10,000
 - d. 1600
3. How many Patriots were at the battle of Moores Creek Bridge?
 - a. 800
 - b. 950
 - c. 1000
 - d. 1150
4. The Royal Governor was a friend of whom?
 - a. People
 - b. King
 - c. General Assembly
5. Who was the Royal Governor of North Carolina in 1775?
 - a. Josiah Martin
 - b. Richard Caswell
 - c. Donald MacDonald
6. Where were the Loyalists to meet Martin and the British reinforcements?
 - a. Wilmington
 - b. Cross Creek
 - c. Brunswick
7. What were the mounds of dirt called that the Patriots built at Moores Creek?
 - a. Earthworks
 - b. Muskets
 - c. Boxes
8. Who won the Battle of Moores Creek?
 - a. Scots
 - b. Patriots
 - c. Loyalists
9. Why is the Battle of Moores Creek important?
 - a. First decisive Patriot victory
 - b. Convinced North Carolina to call for independence
 - c. All of the above
10. The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge and the victory at Fort Sullivan kept the British out of the South for how many years?
 - a. 2 years
 - b. 4 years
 - c. 6 years
 - d. 10 years

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Patriot vs Loyalist at the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge



This is a quick description of the two forces that fought at the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge. They were all North Carolinians, and most were citizen soldiers in the militia, but the two sides differed in their reasons for fighting. Read along to discover who a Patriot was or what groups made up the Loyalist forces and see for yourself why this was considered a civil war, brother against brother, and neighbor against neighbor.

What is a Patriot?

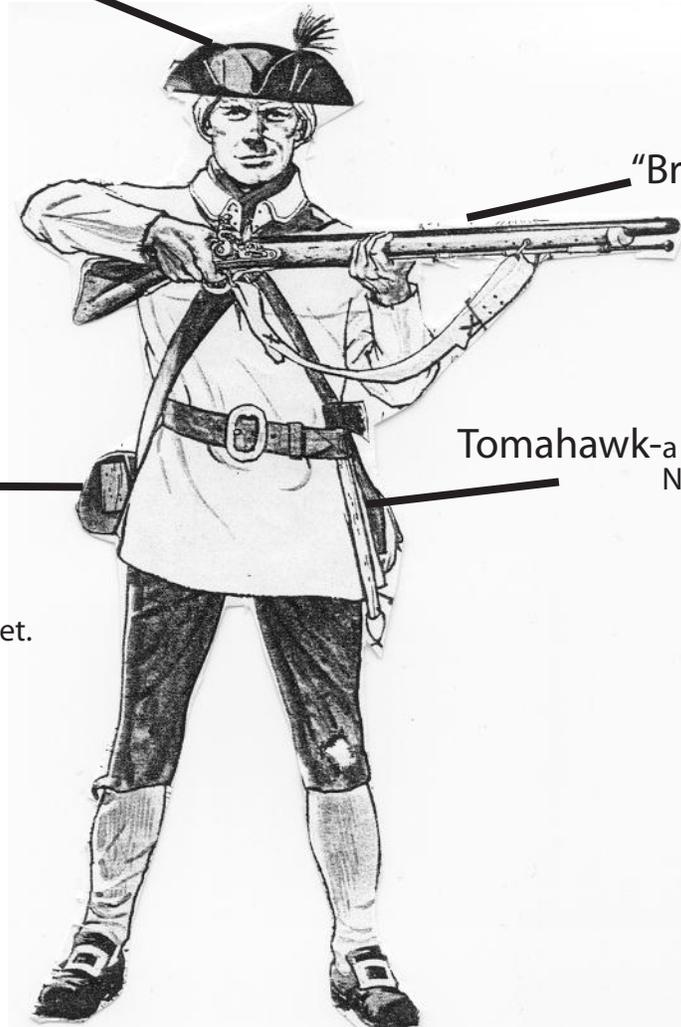
Patriots were those men and women who supported the growing rebellion against the Royal Crown, Great Britain. They sought independence, and shared a common unity with others around them that wanted to be free from British tyranny. They were regular citizen-soldiers. The Patriot forces that fought at Moores Creek Bridge can be broken into three categories:

1. Continental Soldiers- those who enlisted to serve at least one year, like The First Regiment commanded by Colonel James Moore
2. Regular Militia- Men from each county between the ages of 16 and 60 able to bear arms , like Colonel Richard Caswell's county militia from New Bern
3. Minute Men- select men from the militia trained to respond quickly, like Colonel Alexander Lillington of the Wilmington Minute Men

Militiamen were local bands of military groups formed for a common purpose- to fight and defend their land. They were made up of farmers, craftsmen, and local industrialists. They did not share a common uniform, or a common weapon. The few exceptions were the officers who received commissions in the state regiments. Some of those men accepted positions of a lower rank in order to participate with the militia units. Other than those few, the rest were simple North Carolina citizens who banded together to put down British repression on the colonies. They mustered, or trained, a few times a month. Many joined with limited military experience. The preferred weapon of choice was the "Brown Bess" musket, a nearly-five-foot-long weapon. A good marksman could get off four shots in a minute. These weapons were not that accurate, but when combined with hundreds, or even thousands of other muskets, they could bring down the largest of armies. They knew every creek, river, back road, and farm in the region, and in using their knowledge and experiences, a Patriot militia could beat even the most formidable British forces. They supplied the Continental Army, led by General George Washington, with reinforcements, and were ready to take up arms when needed.

Patriot Militia

Tricorn Hat



"Brown Bess" Musket

-English firearm made between 1720 and 1840.

Tomahawk-a light ax first used by the North American Indians.

Cartridge Box

- a leather pouch to carry cartridges of gunpowder and shot used in a musket.

To be in the militia, you had to be sixteen or older. Militiamen were required to provide their own equipment, including a musket, gunpowder, clothes, food, cartridge box, and canteen. Patriot soldiers usually wore civilian or hunting clothes. Most of the clothing was tan or brown, the color of cloth that was produced in the colonies.

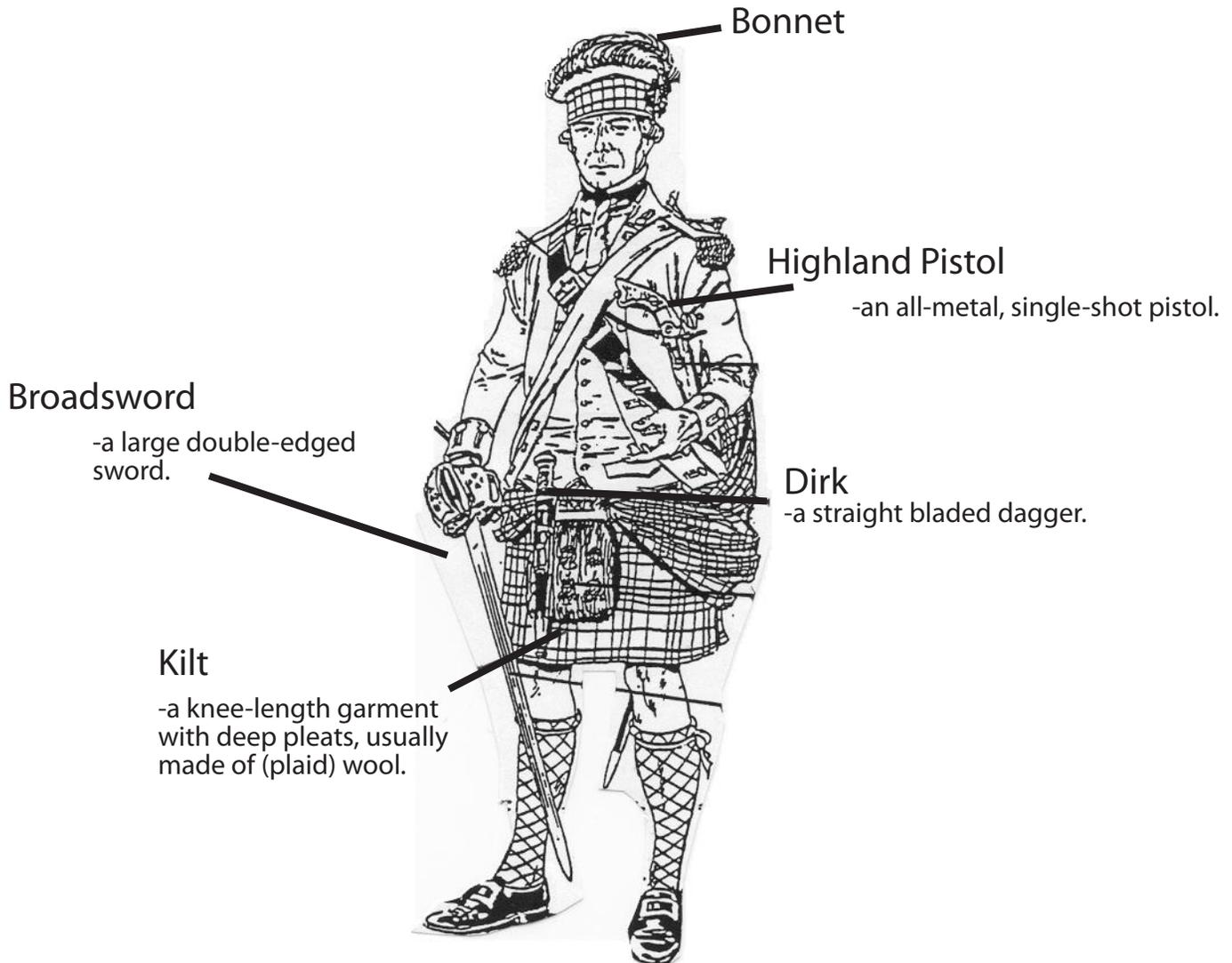
What is a Loyalist?

A Loyalist was one who sought to protect British rule in the colonies, and supported the King. They were regular citizens in the Royal Colony of North Carolina who were struggling to help maintain British law and policies against a rebellious group of Patriots. The Loyalists who fought at the Battle of Moores Creek were trying to meet up with the recently-ousted Royal Governor Josiah Martin, who was located near Brunswick Town.

These Loyalists were a diverse group of North Carolinians. Nearly half of the Loyalist force were Scottish Highlanders, a group of settlers who had emigrated to North Carolina just a few years before the battle took place. They had taken up an oath to fight for the British cause, and to never take up arms against England again. Upon taking up the oath, the Scots Highlanders lost their right to have a weapon in their possession. This would affect the outcome of the battle as many of the Scots Highlanders were left to fight the muskets and fowlers of the Patriots using only their traditional weapon of choice- the Broadsword.

The Leader of the Loyalist forces at Moores Creek Bridge was General Donald MacDonald, a Scottish Highlander who fought at the Battle of Culloden (Scots versus British) and at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Some of the non-Scottish Loyalists were Regulators, a band of backwoods farmers from the Western part of the colony. Just five years before the Battle at Moores Creek Bridge, the Regulators were fighting against the British Crown. Another group that made up the Loyalist force were members of the Loyal Militia, a group of local farmers, craftsmen, and industrialists who supported the King. They sought protection from the Crown in return for their oath and allegiance to take up arms against the rebels. The Loyalists were severely punished by the local citizens leading up to and after this battle. Their homes were raided and pillaged, and some Loyalists had their land confiscated. Many Loyalists fled North Carolina, heading to British safe havens, such as Nova Scotia, England, and the Caribbean Sea.

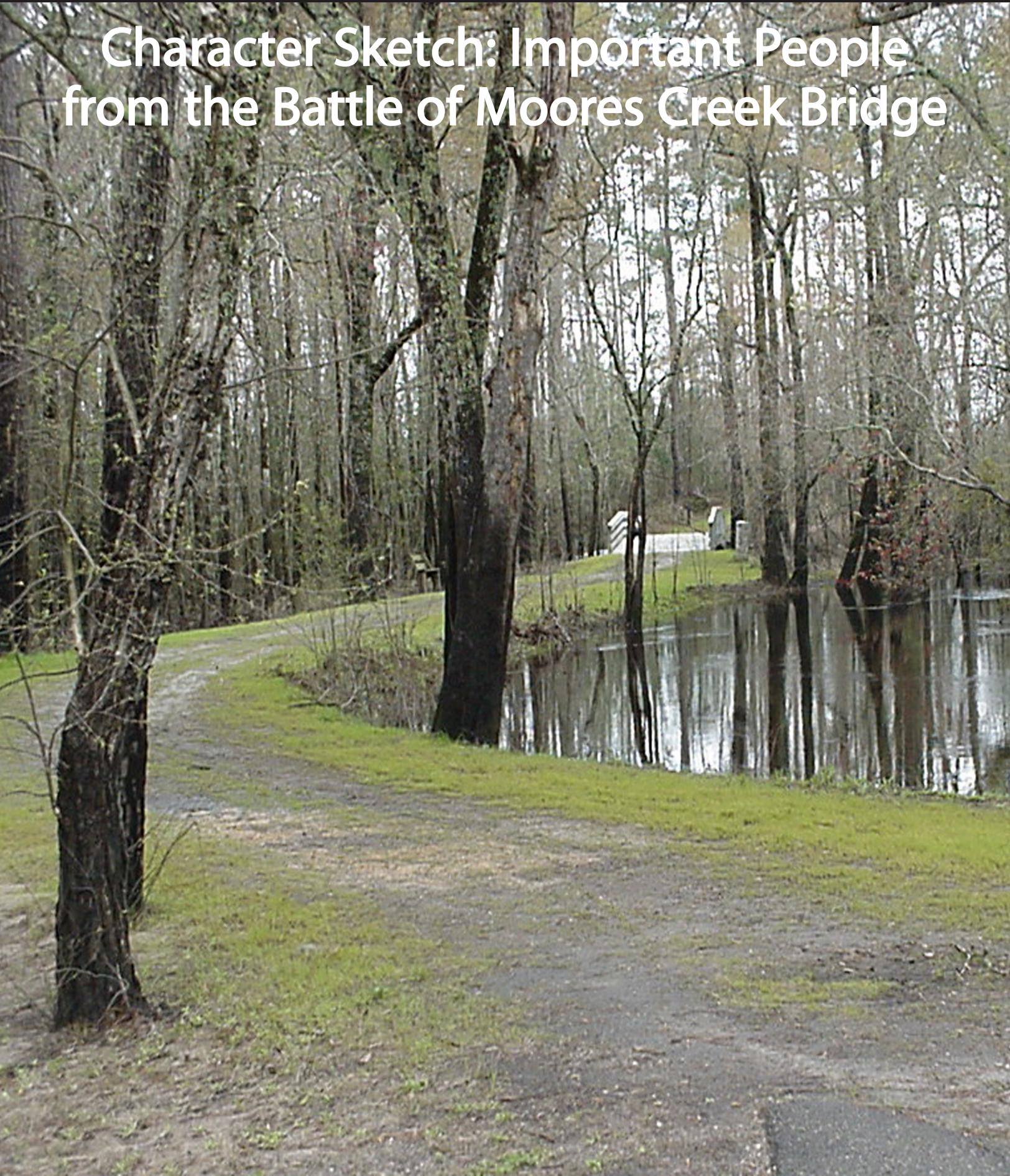
Loyalist Militia



The majority of the Loyalists who fought at Moores Creek were Scottish Highlanders. They liked to fight close up (hand to hand combat). It has been said that the Scots greased themselves, cut their hair, and shaved their beards so the enemy would be unable to hold onto them in battle. They would have worn their traditional plaids, if they had them, while other Loyalists wore English-style clothing.



Character Sketch: Important People from the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge



Donald MacDonald



Donald MacDonald was an emigrant from Scotland. He fought in the Battle of Culloden, and came to America to find a new beginning. MacDonald was pursued by Governor Josiah Martin and placed in charge of recruiting a force for his strategic plan of preserving British rule in the colony, and putting down the rebellions that were rising all across the state. The key to Gov. Martin's plan was to gain allegiance from the Scots Highlanders who had recently emigrated to North Carolina in the years leading up to 1776. They had been granted land and a forgiveness of their transgressions as long as they took an oath of allegiance to the Crown. Lieutenant-Colonel Donald MacDonald was appointed to the rank of Brigadier-General over the Loyalist Militia, and was given the task of forming The Royal Highland Emigrant Regiment. He was to lead his militia to Brunswick Town to rendezvous with other British forces, including Lord Cornwallis.

After leaving Cross Creek with a band of about 1,600 Loyalists, General MacDonald became intertwined in a game of chess with Patriot forces led by Col. James Moore, Col. Richard Caswell, and Col. Alexander Lillington. After being trapped several times, Gen. MacDonald made a break for Moores Creek Bridge, the main pathway to Wilmington. Upon finding out that he had been beat to the bridge, Gen. MacDonald ordered an attack on the smaller force of Patriots. He could not go on though, as he became ill, and handed over the command to his second-in-command, Lt. Col. Donald McLeod. Out-gunned, and out-maneuvered, the Loyalist forces were severely defeated. Gen. MacDonald was caught, and after insisting upon a formal surrender, gave his sword to Col. Moore, who then in turn, returned it, as was the custom. He was sent to a prisoner-of-war camp in Halifax.

Donald McLeod



In July of 1775, two Scottish officers were ordered to go to North Carolina to recruit men for a Battalion of the Royal Highland Emigrant Regiment. Many of their Scottish relatives had settled in the Upper Cape Fear Valley Region near Cross Creek. One of these men was Lieutenant-Colonel Donald MacDonald, a veteran of the Battle of Culloden and the Battle of Bunker Hill, and the other officer was Captain Donald McLeod, a veteran as well. MacDonald and McLeod were regular officers in the British Army. Upon reaching North Carolina, they were stopped and questioned as to what their motives were in North Carolina. After pretending to be retired soldiers looking to settle among their “friends”, they quickly moved in to action and starting recruiting.

Before long, newly appointed Lieutenant-Colonel McLeod had recruited a force of 500 “rough and raucous” men. After hearing of a possible attack by a local Patriot force, the group soon disbanded, and McLeod was left to rendezvous with MacDonald without the soldiers. Another attempt was made to recruit soldiers, and this time the Loyalist officers were successful. During their march to the sea, the Loyalists were met by Patriot forces, blocking their path to Wilmington and Brunswick Town. When the forces met at Moores Creek, General MacDonald was too ill to fight, and the young Lt. Col. McLeod was placed in charge of the Loyalist forces as they marched on Moores Creek Bridge. During the ensuing charge over the bridge, McLeod and over thirty Loyalist were killed, leaving the Loyalist forces leaderless. McLeod was found a few paces away from the Patriot defensive earthworks, riddled with nine bullets and twenty-four swan shots.

Josiah Martin



Josiah Martin, the young and energetic Royal Governor of North Carolina, was the Loyalist leader and a most profound supporter of British law and policy as America headed to war with England. Martin became governor as the former Governor, William Tryon, left North Carolina for New York. In an effort to put down rebellious meetings, Governor Martin issued a Proclamation against the Patriots for forming an illegal assembly. Two weeks later, the first of several Provincial Congresses, as well as several Committees of Safety, formed in the region, watching Governor Martin's every move. Alarmed by the warlike preparations going on throughout the colony, Governor Martin fled Tryon Palace and headed to Fort Johnston, near the mouth of the Cape Fear River. Upon hearing that Governor Martin was held up at Fort Johnston, a militia unit was dispatched to capture the fort. Fearing the attack, Governor Martin escaped to the *Cruizer*, a sloop waiting just off shore. Martin's departure left North Carolina without an organized government.

From the *Cruizer*, Gov. Martin reached out to the British Secretary of State for the colonies, Lord Dartmouth, and offered a plan to put down the rebellions and preserve British rule in the colonies. His grand plan called for a raising of troops from within North Carolina, as well as troops from Boston and England, and even a powerful fleet of ships led by Vice Admiral Sir Peter Parker. The plan was accepted and was put into motion as the primary objective in England's defense and preservation of British rule in the colonies. When the Loyalist forces lost at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge, Royal Governor Martin and Great Britain lost all strongholds on North Carolina, as the Halifax Resolves were passed, declaring North Carolina as a free and independent state, no longer ruled by the Crown.

Richard Caswell



Born on August 3, 1729 in Joppa, Maryland, Richard Caswell was a militia officer during the American Revolutionary War, and led troops at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge. His military experience in the British militia led him to gain the rank of Colonel. Caswell commanded the right wing of former Governor Tryon's army at the Battle of Alamance in 1771.

Caswell studied law and politics. From 1754 to 1776, Caswell was a member of the colonial assembly, and was Speaker of the House for a short period. Caswell was a leader in all five of North Carolina's Provincial Congresses and also served in the First and Second Continental Congress. In a letter to William Legge, Earl of Dartmouth, Governor Josiah Martin stated that Caswell had become "the most active tool of sedition." Caswell eventually resigned as a delegate to the Continental Congress, and took on a military role, using his military and political experience to command the minutemen for the New Bern District.

Col. Caswell was instrumental in helping the Patriots defeat the Loyalist militia at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge. Caswell brought 800 men to Moores Creek Bridge, and joining up with Col. Alexander Lillington's 150 men, built a defensive perimeter on the east side of the creek. Caswell set up a camp on the west side, but after receiving a proclamation from Loyalist Gen. MacDonald to surrender, he pulled his troops across the creek, leaving behind an empty camp. Caswell assumed responsibility for the victory and was given the rank of Brigadier-General of the militia in the New Bern District. Caswell went on to become the first governor of the newly independent state of North Carolina.

Alexander Lillington

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alex Lillington". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

John Alexander Lillington, born in the 1720's, was orphaned at a young age, and was raised by his uncle in the Cape Fear region. He was moderately active in local affairs, and serving as a Lieutenant, helped repel the Spanish invasion of Brunswick Town in 1748. He was involved in a multitude of political affairs in and around New Hanover County, from holding a seat in the Colonial Assembly to serving as a Justice of the Peace. He was given the position of Commissioner of the Roads in 1745 and 1773, as well as Commissioner to survey the Duplin-New Hanover boundary in 1766.

Lillington was not reserved in his feelings to liberty. During the Stamp Act crisis, he publicly indicated to Governor Tryon that he was not happy with the restrictions on commerce in the Cape Fear Region. He served as a Lt. Colonel, and then as Colonel of a light infantry unit put into action to put down the Regulator movement. He was appointed as Colonel of a group of minutemen from Wilmington. When the Committees of Safety in the region were alarmed that Gov. Martin was putting together a plan to put down the rebellion in the colony, Col. Lillington and his minutemen were dispatched to stop the Loyalist advance from Cross Creek to Wilmington and Brunswick Town. When the Loyalist out-maneuvered the Patriot forces, Col. Lillington was ordered to head to Moores Creek Bridge and fortify the area. Col. Lillington and his men beat the Loyalists to Moores Creek, and together with Col. Caswell, defeated a much larger Loyalist force.

James Moore

A cursive signature of the name "James Moore" in black ink, written in a fluid, historical style.

James Moore, Jr. was born in 1737. Being preceded in life by his grandfather, Governor James Moore of South Carolina, and his father, Colonel Maurice Moore of the famed Orton Plantation and Brunswick Town, James Moore was destined to be a great leader, militarily or politically. He was given command of Fort Johnston very early on, assuming the rank of Captain during the French and Indian War. On several occasions, Governor Tryon appointed Colonel Moore as commander of his troops to put down the Regulators, and in doing so, earned him a reputation as a soldier fit for leadership.

By the time General Donald MacDonald and his Loyalists were ready to march down and rendezvous with Sir Henry Clayton, Sir Peter Parker, and Lord Cornwallis, Colonel James Moore had begun to concentrate his troops below Cross Creek. Although Col. Moore was not present at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge, he was given credit as being the hero of the battle. "It was Moore who, with all the finesse of an experienced chess player, maneuvered his troops in such a manner to effectively block the Loyalists from their objective of reaching the coast and forced them to do battle on his own choosing." (1) Moore arrived after the battle, where Col. Richard Caswell and Col. Alexander Lillington led their troops to the first decisive American victory of the Revolutionary War, and he assumed control. He organized search parties to round up the retreating Loyalists, and sent orders to local militias and regiments to block all paths to the sea and to Cross Creek. Col. Moore summed up the incident by stating that the encounter "has most happily terminated a very dangerous insurrection and will, I trust, put an effectual check to Toryism in this country." (2)

1. Rankin, Hugh F., *The Moores Creek Bridge Campaign, 1776*. 1953, p. 37 (59).
2. Hatch Jr., Charles E., *The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge*. 1969, p. 46.

John Grady



John Grady, 20 years old at the time of the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge, was a Minuteman serving under Col. Lillington and Col. Caswell at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge. A private from Duplin County, he was a volunteer, which several of the soldiers who fought in this battle were. Like the others, he lacked many of the basic fundamentals of a trained soldier. On the other hand, many of the soldiers involved were members of the Minutemen and local militia, and these units were trained very well. No records exist to put John Grady on a regular military roster, but it was told that he shouldered his musket and voluntarily joined Caswell's regiment as it marched through the countryside to Cross Creek.

Never the less, Private Grady took part in the Battle at Moores Creek Bridge, closely hugging the earthworks as the Loyalist Scots Highlanders, with broadswords wielding, charged the Patriot defenses. As "Old Mother Covington and Her Daughter" fired upon the attacking Loyalists, the Patriot muskets fired into the darkness, penetrating the Loyalist charge with ease. After the three-minute battle, thirty-plus Loyalists lay dead on the battlefield in front of the earthworks. John Grady, the lone Patriot fatality, was found, shot in the head. Not much is known about how he really died. What is known is what his death did for liberty and independence. John Grady became the first North Carolinian to die in the war for independence, and his death, along with the decisive American victory at Moores Creek Bridge, urged North Carolina to push for complete independence from Great Britain.

Scottish Highlanders



Governor Josiah Martin counted on the Scottish Highlanders to fulfill his strategic plan of putting down rebellion and strife in the colony. Many Scots Highlanders sought North Carolina as a haven, joining the number of other Highlanders who had already emigrated before them. When the union between Scotland and England was broken after the Battle of Culloden on April 16, 1746, many Highlanders took up an oath to England and emigrated in peace. Many of the Scots Highlanders settled in the Upper Cape Fear Valley in Campbelltown and Cross Creek (present-day Fayetteville). Many became merchants and farmers, and many others worked in the production of naval stores, North Carolina's chief export to England.

The Highlanders would prove to be a dedicated force to Governor Martin's plan, as they would make up nearly half of the Loyalist militia. But with only a Broadsword, Dirk, and maybe a pistol as their weapons, the Scots fell quickly at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge, and many were caught in their retreat. After taking another oath, this time promising to never rise up against the Patriot cause, the Scots Highlanders settled back down. Some fled North Carolina due to the persecutions and harassments brought upon them by Patriot and Loyalist colonists alike. Many went to Nova Scotia or New York, both British havens.

Flora MacDonald



Flora MacDonald, heroine of the Revolutionary War for the British cause, was born in Milton, in South Uist off the west coast of Scotland, in 1722. At an early age she made acquaintances with Charles Edward Stuart, more commonly known as Bonnie Prince Charlie. An uprising occurred in England starting in 1745 by the Jacobite faction, and soon afterwards, the Scottish were defeated by the British at the Battle of Culloden in 1746. Having been defeated, Flora smuggled the young prince to the Isle of Skye by disguising him as a woman. For this act she was imprisoned for eight months. In 1750, she married Allan MacDonald and they later moved to North Carolina, which became a haven for Scots Highlanders who fled Europe after the Battle of Culloden.

Close to thirty years of age when her family moved to the Cape Fear Region, she quickly sided with the King and Loyalists during the rebellion that was to become the American Revolution. Flora and Allan MacDonald soon became an integral part of the Loyalist recruiting process, helping to raise more than five hundred Highlanders to fight for Great Britain to preserve British rule in the colony. It was said that Flora rode up and down the lines, on a white horse, calling out words of encouragement as the Loyalists marched out of Cross Creek. Allan MacDonald fought in the Battle at Moores Creek Bridge, and was soon captured by Patriot forces and imprisoned at Halifax. After serving an eighteen month sentence, Allan MacDonald was released in a prisoner exchange program in New York, where Flora joined him. Flora and Allan MacDonald would soon travel to Halifax, Nova Scotia, and then back to the Isle of Skye, but Flora's legacy is still a source of pride among Scots.

Mary Slocumb



So the legend goes, on the eve of the Battle at Moores Creek Bridge, Mary (or Polly or Molly) Hooks Slocumb, of Dobbs County, had a vision in her dreams of a body wrapped in her husband Ezekiel's guard-cloak, bloody, with other bloody, dead and wounded bodies surrounding him. She quickly woke, leaped out of bed, and boarded her horse, leaving her young son in the care of a servant. She proceeded to ride sixty miles through the night from her home in Goldsboro "through a country thinly settled and poor and swampy" to Moores Creek Bridge. "But neither my own spirits nor my own beautiful nag's failed in the least." As daybreak approached, the sounds of gunshots in the distance forced her to gallop quicker.

It was eight or nine o'clock in the morning when she reached the battlefield, jumping from her horse to tend to the wounded, who were spread throughout the battlefield. "Under a cluster of trees were the wounded" she recalled as she had seen this sight a thousand times in her dreams. She found the body she had seen in her dreams wrapped in her husband's guard-cloak. As she tore the garments to reveal the face, to her relief it was not her husband, but that of another wounded soldier. Throughout the rest of the morning, she proceeded to tend to the wounded soldiers from both sides of the battle, both Patriot and Loyalist alike. After many hours of tending to the wounded, Mary heard a familiar voice, that of Ezekiel's, standing there, bloody and muddy. She leaped into his arms at the sight of his unharmed presence. She stayed throughout the day to finish helping with the wounded, and at nightfall, mounted her horse and began the sixty-mile journey home. Upon reaching her house, her son came running to her, jumping into her arms, giving an equally embracing hug. Her family was safe, but the war for independence continued on.

On-Site(Teacher Input, Guided Practice, Independent Practice):

- Students will develop a more in-depth understanding of the content associated with the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge by completing the On-Site activities.
- The activities in this Educators Guide lesson plan can be substituted for other activities that might fit your classroom needs more precisely. The other activities are included- just substitute as needed.

•All resources can be found on the Moores Creek National Battlefield web site:
<http://www.nps.gov/mocr/forteachers/index.htm>

Activity #	Activity	Page(s)
5	History Trail Map	(p. 36-37)
6	Scavenger Hunt- Visitors Center	(p. 38-41)
7	Scavenger Hunt- History Trail	(p. 42- online)



History Trail/ Tar Heel Trail Map

Directions: As you tour the History Trail and Tar Heel Trail, match the feature at each location with the corresponding number.



_____ Caswell's Campsite

_____ Savannah

_____ Moore's Creek Bridge

_____ John Grady Monument

_____ Patriot Fighting Position

_____ Moore's Creek Swamp

_____ Tar Kiln

_____ Earthworks

_____ Loyalist Charge Site

_____ Loyalist Monument

_____ Mary Slocumb Monument

_____ Long-leaf Pine Boxing

_____ Negro Head Point Road/
Old Stage Road

_____ Battlefield Association
Monument



History Trail/ Tar Heel Trail Map

Directions: As you tour the History Trail and Tar Heel Trail, match the feature at each location with the corresponding number.



__5__ Caswell's Campsite

__6__ Moore's Creek Bridge

__8__ Patriot Fighting Position

__14__ Tar Kiln

__7__ Loyalist Charge Site

__12__ Mary Slocumb Monument

__2__ Negro Head Point Road/
Old Stage Road

__1__ Savannah

__9__ John Grady Monument

__4__ Moore's Creek Swamp

__3__ Earthworks

__10__ Loyalist Monument

__13__ Long-leaf Pine Boxing

__11__ Battlefield Association
Monument



Visitors Center Timeline

Directions: As you tour the Visitors Center and watch the film, find the answers to the following questions about the events leading up to, during, and after the American Revolution and the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge.

1. As you enter the exhibit, notice that the events above the Green line are _____ events. Those below the Green line are _____ events.
2. What occurred on March 22, 1765, which required a tax to be placed on all paper goods in the colonies? _____
3. Colonists met in October of 1765 to assert their rights as British subjects to only be taxed with their consent, otherwise known as "_____"
4. In 1767, backwoods farmers of North Carolina united to form what group in protest of taxes? _____
5. What event occurred on March 5, 1770? _____
6. Who became Governor of North Carolina after Governor Tryon moved to New York?

7. What occurred in the port of Boston on December 16, 1773?

8. What group formed in Wilmington on August 25, 1774?

9. Where does the "shot heard round the world" occur?
_____ & _____
10. Where does Governor Martin flee to in May of 1775?

11. Who is given command of the Continental Army? _____
12. Who gathers a force of 1600 Scots Highlanders and Loyalist militia at Cross Creek?

13. Who is pictured in the "Secret Orders" display? _____

15. Who delivered General MacDonald's ultimatum to Colonel Caswell the night before the battle? _____
16. What did the Patriots do to the bridge at Moores Creek to slow down Loyalist soldiers?

17. Who served as the first Governor of the Independent State of North Carolina?

18. What happened on July 4, 1776? _____
19. What two European countries declared war on Great Britain during the American Revolution? _____ & _____
20. Who surrenders at Yorktown, Virginia? _____
21. As the Loyalist forces retreated from Moores Creek, Patriot forces followed in pursuit, capturing many of the Loyalists, and seizing many items including:

_____ guns (fowlers and shotguns) and shot bags

_____ dirks and swords

_____ stand of arms (muskets and bayonets)

_____ medicine chests

_____ wagons, complete with teams

_____ pounds of sterling (coins)
22. What three groups made up the Patriot forces?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
23. What three groups made up the Loyalist forces?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

Visitors Center Timeline

Directions: As you tour the Visitors Center and watch the film, find the answers to the following questions about the events leading up to, during, and after the American Revolution and the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge.

1. As you enter the exhibit, notice that the events above the **Green** line are **National** events. Those below the **Green** line are **North Carolina** events.
2. What occurred on March 22, 1765, which required a tax to be placed on all paper goods in the colonies? **Stamp Act**
3. Colonists met in October of 1765 to assert their rights as British subjects to only be taxed with their consent, otherwise known as "**no taxation without representation**"
4. In 1767, backwoods farmers of North Carolina united to form what group in protest of taxes? **Regulators**
5. What event occurred on March 5, 1770? **Boston Massacre**
6. Who became Governor of North Carolina after Governor Tryon moved to New York?
Josiah Martin
7. What occurred in the port of Boston on December 16, 1773?
Boston Tea Party
8. What group formed in Wilmington on August 25, 1774?
First Provincial Congress
9. Where does the "shot heard round the world" occur?
Lexington & Concord
10. Where does Governor Martin flee to in May of 1775?
Fort Johnston
11. Who is given command of the Continental Army?
General George Washington
12. Who gathers a force of 1600 Scots Highlanders and Loyalist militia at Cross Creek?
General Donald MacDonald
13. Who is pictured in the "Secret Orders" display?
General Thomas Gage
14. When does the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge take place?
February 27, 1776

15. Who delivered General MacDonald's ultimatum to Colonel Caswell the night before the battle? **Charles Hepburn**
16. What did the Patriots do to the bridge at Moores Creek to slow down Loyalist soldiers? **Removed planks and greased the girders**
17. Who served as the first Governor of the Independent State of North Carolina? **Richard Caswell**
18. What happened on July 4, 1776? **Declaration of Independence**
19. What two European countries declare war on Great Britain during the American Revolution? **France & Spain**
20. Who surrenders at Yorktown, Virginia? **Cornwallis**
21. As the Loyalist forces retreated from Moores Creek, Patriot forces followed in pursuit, capturing many of the Loyalists, and seizing many items including:
 - ___ **350** ___ guns (fowlers and shotguns) and shot bags
 - ___ **150** ___ dirks and swords
 - ___ **1,500** ___ stand of arms (muskets and bayonets)
 - ___ **2** ___ medicine chests
 - ___ **13** ___ wagons, complete with teams
 - ___ **15,000** ___ pounds of sterling (coins)
22. What three groups made up the Patriot forces?
 - a. **Continental Soldiers**
 - b. **Regular Militia**
 - c. **Minute Men**
23. What three groups made up the Loyalist forces?
 - a. **Scots Highlanders**
 - b. **Backwoods Farmers/ Regulators**
 - c. **Loyal Militia**

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Moore's Creek National Battlefield



Battle of Moore's Creek Scavenger Hunt

- This resource can be found on the Moore's Creek National Battlefield Website: <http://www.nps.gov/mocr/forteachers/index.htm>
- Print out the following pictures
(2 per page as handouts).
- Use the map on the second page to help guide you throughout the park.
- Place the letter from the map next to the picture that best fits that location.
- Clues can be found on monuments, signs, and display boards, so read well.
- All letters (locations) will be used, and no two pictures will fit the same site. Good Luck!

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

Post-Visit (Assessment)

•The activities in the Post-Visit section are created as a review and assessment of the student’s knowledge after visiting Moores Creek National Battlefield.

•All resources can be found on the Moores Creek National Battlefield web site:
<http://www.nps.gov/mocr/forteachers/index.htm>

Activity #	Activity	Page(s)
8	First in Freedom Timeline	(p. 44-46)
9	The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge Jeopardy	(p. 47- online)
10	The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge Test	(p. 48-53)

North Carolina “First in Freedom” Timeline Foldable

Directions: The goal of this is to take the two documents and turn them into one front-and-back document. Print out the first page (page 2 on this document). Place it back into the printer, but make sure that the first page is facing up. Then print the second page, which will come out on the back of the first page. (Note: The first page should have the Title on the left-hand side of the page. When flipped over, the Dates should appear along the left-hand side of the page as you look at it.) Fold the paper so that the dates end up just below the line under the title. (Note: you may have to cut off the white strip of paper above the dates) Cut along the line in between the events/ dates until you reach the solid black line running across the sheet. Each event/ date can now be folded down to reveal important data related to that event.

Foldables are a great tool for studying and student comprehension. This specific foldable hides the other information, and only allows the needed information to be seen.

Where it Fits:

- **North Carolina Standard Course of Study**

8th grade- North Carolina: Creation and Development of the State

Competency Goal 2- The learner will trace the causes and effects of the Revolutionary War, and assess the impact of major events, problems, and personalities during the Constitutional Period in North Carolina and the new nation.

10th grade- Civics and Economics

1.02- Trace and analyze the development of self-government in British North America.

1.03- Examine the causes of the American Revolution.

- **Interpretive Theme Ideas for Moores Creek National Battlefield**

1- Fought by militia on both sides, these citizen soldiers displayed dedication and commitment to their causes. The battle of Moores Creek was the first decisive American victory of the Revolutionary War. The battle launched the struggle for freedom and independence.

2-The victory ended the royal authority in North Carolina, and led to the state being the first to instruct its delegates in the Continental Congress to vote for independence. The events of July in Independence Hall can trace their roots to cold February day at Moores Creek.

North Carolina "First in Freedom" Timeline Foldable

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •71 delegates met in Wilmington •Meeting was held without the consent of the Royal Governor, Josiah Martin •The Provincial Congress became the first government established in any of the colonies that was outside of British Control •The Provincial Congress elected representatives to the Continental Congress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •4 dozen women gathered in the town of Edenton to protest British taxes •They burned their household supply of tea •This was very significant since women's voices were not to be heard regarding politics and government •Similar to the Boston Tea Party, which occurred on December 16, 1773 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •A committee of Mecklenburg County citizens met in Charlotte •They declared that all offices appointed by the British government were now vacant •They also declared that the Provincial Congress was the only lawful government in the colony •This date can be found on the NC state flag 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Patriot forces, made up of local militia and minutemen, defeated a larger force of Loyalist soldiers who were primarily made up of Scots Highlanders and loyal militia •This was the first decisive American victory of the American Revolution •Urged North Carolinians to pursue independence from Great Britain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Fourth Provincial Congress passed the Halifax Resolves •In issuing the Resolves, North Carolina became the first colonial government to call for total independence from Great Britain •This date can be found on the NC state flag 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •A committee from the Second Continental Congress was appointed to write a document that would officially announce the independence of the United States from Great Britain •Thomas Jefferson was the primary author •The document explained why the United States of America should be free •True independence would not officially come until the end of the war
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August 25, 1774	First Provincial Congress
October 25, 1774	Edenton Tea Party
May 20, 1776	Mecklenburg Declaration
February 27, 1776	Battle of Moores Creek Bridge
April 12, 1776	Halifax Resolves
July 4, 1776	Declaration Of Independence

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Moore's Creek National Battlefield



Moore's Creek National Battlefield

All resources can be found on the Moore's Creek National Battlefield
Website: <http://www.nps.gov/mocr/forteachers/index.htm>

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA



The Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge Test

Section 1- Multiple Choice

1. How many Patriots fought at the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge?
 - a. 500
 - b. 1000
 - c. 1500
 - d. 2000
2. How many Loyalists fought at the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge?
 - a. 400
 - b. 800
 - c. 1200
 - d. 1600
3. Who took over as commander of the Loyalist forces when the Loyalist General fell ill and could not fight?
 - a. Alexander McLean
 - b. Allan MacDonald
 - c. Donald McLeod
 - d. Donald MacDonald
4. Which Patriot officer did not participate in the Battle at Moore's Creek Bridge, but received credit for being the hero?
 - a. James Moore
 - b. Richard Caswell
 - c. John Grady
 - d. Alexander Lillington
5. The defensive fortifications the Patriots built on the East side of Moore's Creek are known today as:
 - a. Bunkers
 - b. Foxholes
 - c. Earthworks
 - d. Trenches
6. How long did the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge last?
 - a. 3 minutes
 - b. 30 minutes
 - c. 3 hours
 - d. 3 days
7. What was the name of the fort that the Royal Governor fled to before the Revolutionary War started?
 - a. Ft. Sumter
 - b. Ft. Anderson
 - c. Ft. Fisher
 - d. Ft. Johnston
8. Which of the following was not a naval store product?
 - a. Tar
 - b. Rope
 - c. Turpentine
 - d. Pitch

9. Which of the following was the main weapon used by the Scottish Highlanders?
- a. Brown Bess Musket
 - b. Swivel Gun
 - c. Broadsword
 - d. Fowler
10. Old Negro Head Point Road connected Wilmington to what Upper Cape Fear Valley town, now known as Fayetteville?
- a. Cross Creek
 - b. Halifax
 - c. Burgaw
 - d. Brunswick Town

Section 2- Fill-in-the-Blank

11. After Governor Tryon left North Carolina to move to New York, _____ became the new Royal Governor of North Carolina.
12. On March 5, 1770, five colonial Americans were killed when British soldiers fired into a crowd, forever marking that day, as colonist would call it, as the _____
13. On August 25, 1774, the _____ met in Wilmington, making it the first government established in any of the colonies outside of British control.
14. The Royal Governor of North Carolina appointed General _____ as leader of the Loyalist militia in North Carolina.
15. On _____, 1776, Loyalist forces attacked a Patriot stronghold at Moores Creek Bridge.
16. Colonel _____ and Colonel _____ were the leaders of the Patriot forces at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge.
17. On April 12, 1776, the _____ was issued, making North Carolina the first colony to declare total independence from Great Britain.
18. On July 4, 1776, the _____ was signed, officially declaring America's freedom from British rule.
19. General _____ surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia to Patriot General George Washington.
20. _____ was the only Patriot killed in the Battle at Moores Creek Bridge and the first North Carolinian to die in the war for independence.

Section 3- Short Answer

21. What did the Patriots do to the bridge at Moores Creek to make it a little more difficult to cross?

22. How many Loyalists died at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge?

23. What was the name given to the two pieces of artillery used by the Patriot forces at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge?

24. What was the significance of the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge?

25. Which department of the Executive branch controls Moores Creek National Battlefield and other National Parks?



The Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge Test (Key)

Section 1- Multiple Choice

1. How many Patriots fought at the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge?
 - a. 500
 - b. 1000**
 - c. 1500
 - d. 2000
2. How many Loyalists fought at the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge?
 - a. 400
 - b. 800
 - c. 1200
 - d. 1600**
3. Who took over as commander of the Loyalist forces when the Loyalist General fell ill and could not fight?
 - a. Alexander McLean
 - b. Allan MacDonald
 - c. Donald McLeod**
 - d. Donald MacDonald
4. Which Patriot officer did not participate in the Battle at Moore's Creek Bridge, but received credit for being the hero?
 - a. James Moore**
 - b. Richard Caswell
 - c. John Grady
 - d. Alexander Lillington
5. The defensive fortifications the Patriots built on the East side of Moore's Creek are known today as:
 - a. Bunkers
 - b. Foxholes
 - c. Earthworks**
 - d. Trenches
6. How long did the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge last?
 - a. 3 minutes**
 - b. 30 minutes
 - c. 3 hours
 - d. 3 days
7. What was the name of the fort that the Royal Governor fled to before the Revolutionary War started?
 - a. Ft. Sumter
 - b. Ft. Anderson
 - c. Ft. Fisher
 - d. Ft. Johnston**
8. Which of the following was not a naval store product?
 - a. Tar
 - b. Rope**
 - c. Turpentine
 - d. Pitch

9. Which of the following was the main weapon used by the Scottish Highlanders?
- a. Brown Bess Musket
 - b. Swivel Gun
 - c. Broadsword
 - d. Fowler
10. Old Negro Head Point Road connected Wilmington to what Upper Cape Fear Valley town, now known as Fayetteville?
- a. Cross Creek
 - b. Halifax
 - c. Burgaw
 - d. Brunswick Town

Section 2- Fill-in-the-Blank

11. After Governor Tryon left North Carolina to move to New York, **Josiah Martin** became the new Royal Governor of North Carolina.
12. On March 5, 1770, five colonial Americans were killed when British soldiers fired into a crowd, forever marking that day, as colonist would call it, as the **Boston Massacre**.
13. On August 25, 1774, the **First Provincial Congress** met in Wilmington, making it the first government established in any of the colonies outside of British control.
14. The Royal Governor of North Carolina appointed General **Donald MacDonald** as leader of the Loyalist militia in North Carolina.
15. On **February 26**, 1776, Loyalist forces attacked a Patriot strong-hold at Moores Creek Bridge.
16. Colonel **Richard Caswell** and Colonel **Alexander Lillington** were the leaders of the Patriot forces at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge.
17. On April 12, 1776, the **Halifax Resolves** was issued, making North Carolina the first colony to declare total independence from Great Britain.
18. On July 4, 1776, the **Declaration of Independence** was signed, officially declaring America's freedom from British rule.
19. General **Cornwallis** surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia to Patriot General George Washington.
20. **John Grady** was the only Patriot killed in the Battle at Moores Creek Bridge and the first North Carolinian to die in the war for independence.

Section 3- Short Answer

21. What did the Patriots do to the bridge at Moores Creek to make it a little more difficult to cross?
- They removed the planks and greased the girders
22. How many Loyalists died at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge?
- 30 (though some put it as high as 70 because of soldiers drowning or dying in the surrounding swamps)
23. What was the name given to the two pieces of artillery used by the Patriot forces at the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge?
- Mother Covington and Her Daughter
24. What was the significance of the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge?
- 1st Patriot victory of the American Revolution
 - Led North Carolina to declare complete independence from Great Britain
25. Which department of the Executive branch controls Moores Creek National Battlefield and other National Parks?
- Department of the Interior

Other Useful Activities

- The following activities are great substitutes for any of the activities in this guide, or they can be added to the curriculum if needed
- Some of these activities in this section are designed to make the student apply more of their knowledge. These are good activities for higher level students, or to push on-level students to demonstrate a higher level of thinking.
- The other activities are good for learners of all levels.

All resources can be found on the Moores Creek National Battlefield web site:
<http://www.nps.gov/mocr/forteachers/index.htm>

Activity #	Activity	Page(s)
11	Battle of Moores Creek Bridge- The Terrain	(p. 55-57)
12	Choosing Sides- Loyalists or Patriots	(p. 58-59)
13	MOCR Maze	(p. 60)
14	MOCR Word Search	(p. 61)
15	MOCR Word Scramble	(p. 62-63)

Choosing Sides- Loyalist or Patriot?

Directions: Divide the class into groups of three (a group of four will work if necessary, but there should be no groups of two or less). Once the students are in groups, assign them a letter- A, B, or C- the extra member in the group will be a "C" as well. Give those students who are an "A" the "A-Card". Give those students who are a "B" the "B-Card". The "C" students should receive a "C-Card", and there should only be one "A" and one "B" per group.

The Purpose of the Activity: "A" student and "B" student will take turns trying to convince the "C" student(s) in the group to come over to their side. They may have an idea of whether they are a Loyalist or Patriot based on the descriptions, but they can not reveal that information to the "C" student(s). The "C" student will have an opportunity to weigh both sides, and then they must write down which side they chose, and why. After all of the "C" students have chosen a side, the teacher will allow one "A" student and one "B" student to read their Side Card to the class. The teacher will then call on each "C" student, one at a time, to reveal which side they chose and why. The teacher will keep a tally of which side they chose, Loyalist or Patriot. The teacher will then read the Summary at the bottom of this page, and allow the students to comment on any aspect of the activity, prompting a discussion.

Background: During the years leading up to the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge and into the American Revolution, tensions were growing in the colonies between two major groups- the Loyalists and Patriots. Loyalists were those colonials who were loyal to the King of England. They may not have agreed with the policies and laws of the Crown, but they knew they had a duty to uphold the laws and remain loyal to the government that controlled their daily lives. The Patriots were those colonials who were growing weary of British rules and policies, especially when they had no say in how these laws would be made or implemented. They strived for freedom from a tyrannical royal government, often led by Royal Governors who suppressed any utterance of rebellion. The Patriots grew tired and weary of being British citizens without British rights. A third group of people in the colony were a group considered to be neutral- meaning they did not agree with being ruled by a Royal government, but feared the thought of trying to rebel against one of the most powerful countries in the world. So if you were a neutral, where would you have fit in?

Loyalist

- Also known as Tories, King's Men, Royalists
- Made up of:
 - Wealthy merchants
 - Old "official" class
 - Large planters
 - Professional men
 - Conservatives
 - Scottish Highlanders
 - Disgruntled Regulators

Patriots

- Also known as Whigs
- Made up nearly half of the population, which included:
 - Small farmers
 - Artisans
 - Some large landholders
- Stood ready to fight for a "redress of grievances", for independence if need be
- Feared tyranny and "no representation"

The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge Word Search

Directions: Find the words from the word bank that are related to the Battle at Moores Creek Bridge in the Word Search below.

J H S W D L A N O D C A M D L A N O D K D
 A S K F U D K F Z J Q S Z C X K T Q U Z B
 M Z P Y O A R S G P W K X R B O A P U Y J
 E B J X N O O F D A Z C L E F D L Z T N B
 S A G Z E R K Q H T J D I V I X E E I M R
 M S N J G T Q H Z R O T A O Q E X C X T O
 O J L I Y N O C Q I S S G L E K A N S L A
 O A A A L I W P D O I I X U S S N E D L D
 R Q V Q N O Q X F T A L R T S K D D O E S
 E L P M R P R G L D H A N I E Q E N E W W
 I U K O Y D G A G T M Y Q O B B R E L S O
 G J D O K A R L C P A O F N N L L P C A R
 U O M R J E M L M H R L T L W V I E M C D
 D H P E K H U B V R T Q E C O I L D D D A
 A N D S N O G U A G I R F U R P L N L R I
 T G H C X R T X U R N R O V B G I I A A T
 F R U R Z G A S P L W A J N H M N A N H I
 P A V E Q E A R T H W O R K S M G F O C L
 H D O E E N F L F E A S A G B E T F D I I
 Q Y N K U T I K M L G L F Z O S O K O R M
 E W Z V L J U L W Y V P H N K N N J I X P

Alexander Lillington
 broadsword
 brown bess
 Donald MacDonald
 Donald McLeod
 earthworks
 independence
 James Moore
 John Grady

Josiah Martin
 loyalist
 militia
 Moores Creek
 Negro Head Point Road
 North Carolina
 patriot
 revolution
 Richard Caswell

The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge Word Scramble

Directions: Please unscramble the words below. Some lines may be two words

1. toloruven _____

2. riatotp _____

3. liyltaos _____

4. soocerrkeme _____

5. ainomsritjah _____

6. ememsaojro _____

7. rcldrिकासwlaeh _____

8. ninrloeiaгалxndtlle _____

9. onydgrahj _____

10. landldadmcdonoa _____

11. nshahcdosilitthreg _____

12. lmtiia _____

13. daordborws _____

14. resnbwsbo _____

15. roanrhiltcnoa _____

KEY: The Battle of Moores Creek Bridge Word Scramble

Directions: Please unscramble the words below. Some lines may be two words

1. revolution
2. Patriot
3. Loyalist
4. Moores Creek
5. Josiah Martin
6. James Moore
7. Richard Caswell
8. Alexander Lillington
9. John Grady
10. Donald MacDonald
11. Scottish Highlander
12. militia
13. broadsword
14. Brown Bess
15. North Carolina



This Educators Guide is an excellent curriculum guide for a teacher planning a field trip to Moore's Creek National Battlefield. The staff at Moore's Creek has worked in collaboration with area teachers to produce a top-quality lesson plan that requires little, if no work by the teacher as all of the documents, activities, worksheets, and assessments have been completed and are ready to go. Answer keys have been provided, and some worksheets have been altered to include lower-level learners in the process. Before visiting the park, be sure to call Moore's Creek National Battlefield to set up a field trip. Our knowledgeable staff of Rangers/ Interpreters will ensure that your day with us runs smoothly and that your program stays on track. Be sure to print this Educators Guide booklet as well as all related documents, which are included at no cost to the user. Thank you for your interest in our National Park, and be sure to visit other state and national parks in our area. Take learning outside of the classroom.

