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A Letter to the Educator

We at the Brandywine Battlefield Park know the importance of studying and understanding the past. Our mission has always been to educate visitors, particularly students, on the history of Colonial America, the American Revolution, and the Battle of Brandywine. Throughout a normal year, Brandywine Battlefield Park fulfills that mission by hosting thousands of school students through our various programming options. As the state of educating our students traverses uncertain and changing times, we understand and realize the importance of adapting to meet those challenges and changes.

Through generous support from various foundations and organizations, the Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates have converted some of our most popular programs that are normally only offered for in person field trips, to video format. These videos were filmed on our park grounds along with other battle related locations and include our Museum Educator along with various period interpreters your students would meet and learn from if they were able to visit us in person. These video programs allow us to continue to fulfill our mission by offering you access to our resources, tools, and various materials remotely to continue your important role as an educator.

This guide is an overview of our video program options that will offer insight and background to each available program and how they can successfully fit your needs. As always, each program is tailored to satisfy various curriculum standards and will continue to allow your students the ability to gain knowledge and a better understanding of various topics they would typically experience on a field trip to our historic site.

We hope these video programs will be able serve as the important tools and resources they were designed to be utilized as. We look forward to working with you in the future and thank you for your continued efforts in educating our youth on this important time in American History.

Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates
Education Committee
Frequently Asked Questions & Information

What are these videos?
These videos were produced using materials and resources from our most popular programs that teachers choose when they visit Brandywine Battlefield Park on an “in-person” field trip. The core of these videos are from our “Colonial Days” program which is comprised of eight rotating program stations and immerse students in different aspects of 18th Century Colonial America with an emphasis on the American Revolution and the Battle of Brandywine.

How can I use the videos?
Each video is tailored to satisfy curriculum standards. They can act as stand alone lessons/activities or used together as a larger learning experience. Accompanied with the video programs is an Educator Resource Manual that includes additional background, key terms, discussion questions, and activities for each subject to assist the educator in planning their lessons. These videos can be used with individual students and classes or entire grades in a larger setting.

What age group are the videos this appropriate for?
The subject matter conveyed in each video is designed to satisfy curriculum standards for Grades 4-8, however it is appropriate for ages beyond Grade 8.

How much time should I allow when planning to use these videos/lessons?
Each video is approximately 15-30 minutes long. Accompanied with some of the videos are discussion questions and activities that could add additional time. These videos are meant to be used in a flexible manner by an educator, so it is at the educator’s discretion on what they choose to use.

What are the technical requirements for these videos/lessons?
Easy! If you have a computer, internet access, and audio, you’re all set! To access and play the videos, you will need an internet connection. Audio is required in order to hear the videos. In a larger setting, it is recommended that they be played on a projector or larger viewing screen. It is recommended that a test of the video with audio is conducted before the lesson.

How should I prepare my students for the videos?
As previously mentioned, there is an Educator’s Resource Manual associated with the videos that will contain materials to prepare your students if you choose to do so. It is recommended that you have the students view our Orientation Video that is also included prior to viewing any of the videos. The video alone is sufficient in preparing students.

What if I have difficulties accessing the videos or materials?
Although we don’t anticipate this happening, please feel free to contact us with any questions or difficulties you may be experiencing. The implementation of these videos is meant to be as simple and easy to work with as possible.

What Programs are included?
This guide includes information pertaining to each program that is available. There are two package options that are laid out on the following page. Continue through the guide to learn more about the packages and each program to see what they can offer you and your students!
Program Packages & Pricing

**Video Program Packages/Options:**

There are three easy ways to access and view each video program:

**Full Program Package:** Allows educators access to ALL ten video programs and Brandywine Battlefield Park Orientation Film for a period of one month.

**Basic Program Package:** Allows educators access to five core programs which includes the Brandywine Battlefield Park Orientation Film for a period of one month.

**Individual Program Rental:** Allows educators access to an individual program of their choosing for a period of one month.

**What is the cost of each option?**

- Full Program Package: $75.00 for one month access
- Basic Program Package: $40.00 for one month access
- Individual Program Rental: $10.00 each for one month access

**How do I access the videos?**

All videos are accessible on UScreen.com, an educational video platform that allows for easy access and flexibility.

Our programs can be found by accessing the link below:

https://brandywinebattlefielddigitalprogramming.uscreen.io/
This program is dedicated to the common soldier who fought during the American Revolution, specifically in General George Washington’s Continental Army. Throughout the program the various topics are discussed:

- The challenges General Washington faced throughout the American Revolution
- Who were the soldiers that fought in Washington’s army?
- What motivated the soldiers to stay and fight in General Washington’s Army?
- What hardships and struggles did the soldiers in General Washington’s Army face?
- What was life like for a soldier in General Washington’s army?
- How did General Washington train his soldiers?
- What gear did the soldiers carry and what purpose did each item serve?
- What were some of the uniforms the soldiers wore and why were they important?
- What were the weapons the soldiers used and why did they fight the way they did?

Program Length: 32 minutes
Load the Cannon!:
Artillery in the American Revolution

This program discusses Artillery in the American Revolution and it’s importance. Various topics discussed throughout the program include:

- What is Artillery and why was it important?
- What types of Artillery were used in the American Revolution?
- Why was Science and Mathematics so important when it came to firing a cannon?
- What was the role of an artillery crew and why was it so important?
- What did each man in an artillery crew do?
- Hear a first hand account and experience from Edward “Ned” Hector, a free African American artillerist who fought at the Battle of Brandywine

Program Length: 28 minutes
This program discusses medical practice in the American Revolution, specifically in the Continental Army. Throughout the program the following topics are discussed:

- How did Doctors in the 18th Century understand health and medicine? How does it compare to modern times?
- Who were the doctors in the Continental Army?
- How did 18th Century lifestyles impact health?
- What were common diseases in the American Revolution and how did it impact an army?
- What were the conditions in the Continental Army and how did they contribute to a soldier’s health?
- What were common procedures done by doctors in the American Revolution?
- What happened when a soldier was wounded on the battlefield?
- What treatment did doctors offer to soldiers in the Continental Army?

Program Length: 23 minutes
Militia in the American Revolution

This program discusses another important component of General Washington’s army; the Militia. Learn from a militia man from Chester County, PA as he discusses various aspects of these different types of soldiers throughout the American Revolution. Various topics are discussed throughout the program, including:

- What was a militia and why was it important?
- What was the history of the militia in Colonial America before the American Revolution?
- How was the militia used in Pennsylvania?
- What was the experience of the militia in the American Revolution, specifically for someone fighting in the Chester County, PA militia?
- What was the training like for the militia in Pennsylvania?
- What was the payment for fighting in your local militia?
- What gear and clothing did the militia use?

Program Length: 22 minutes
This program discusses an essential trade of the 18th Century; blacksmithing. Our blacksmith will demonstrate the role of the “smithy” in the 18th century and discuss the history, science, technology, techniques, and economic importance of this highly respected trade. Topics discussed include:

- What were the origins of blacksmithing before the 18th century?
- What role did the blacksmith play in Colonial American life and why were they so important?
- What was the science behind blacksmithing?
- What tools did the blacksmith use to carry out his craft?
- What techniques were commonly used by a blacksmith?
- What did blacksmiths make?
- Why did General Washington rely heavily on blacksmiths throughout the American Revolution?
This program focuses on the life of Quaker farmer, Gideon Gilpin, who lived in one of the historic homes on the Brandywine Battlefield Park grounds and witnessed the Battle of Brandywine. Throughout this program the following topics are discussed:

- Who was Gideon Gilpin and why was he important?
- What was life like in 18th century Chester County, PA and how did Gideon Gilpin contribute to it?
- What is a Quaker?
- What was a Quaker’s experience during the American Revolution and what challenges did they face?
- What impact did the Battle of Brandywine have on Gideon Gilpin and his neighbors?
- What hard decisions did the Quaker community have to face before, during, and after the Battle of Brandywine?
- What decisions would you make if you were faced with the same challenges and questions?

Program Length: 15 minutes
Questions for an 18th Century Family

This program compiles some of the most commonly asked questions by students regarding life in the 18th Century when they visit Brandywine Battlefield Park. Through an actual family who all portray people living in the 18th century, students will gain a better understanding of 18th century life when they hear this family’s answers to the following questions:

- What was a camp follower?
- What was cooking for the army like in the American Revolution?
- What things did women do in the 18th century?
- Were children associated with the Continental Army?
- What things did children do fun in the 18th Century?
- What did a gentleman in the 18th century wear?
- What types of jobs or trades could a man do in the 18th century?
- How did someone get their news in the 18th century?
- Were people really “shorter” in the 18th century?

Program Length: 17 minutes
This program discusses various components of writing in the 18th century and their importance. Students will also read first hand accounts of a British and American officer who fought in the Battle of Brandywine and discuss the importance of the two documents. Throughout the program, the following topics are discussed:

- What was learning to write like in the 18th century?
- Who learned to write in the 18th century and why?
- Why was writing so important?
- What implements did one use to write in the 18th century?
- How did one sign, seal, and deliver a letter in the 18th century?
- What are primary and secondary sources?
- Why are things like letters, accounts, and other primary sources from a certain time period important?
- How can primary sources help us to better understand history?

Program Length: 19 minutes
This program dives into the world of Vexillology, or the study of flags and how flags were used in the American Revolution. Throughout the program, the various topics will be discussed:

- What is Vexillology and a flag?
- What types of flags are there and why are they important?
- What are the parts of a flag?
- What were common flags of the American Revolution and what were their history/meanings?
- What is the history and symbolism of the flag of the United States of America?
- What is the history and symbolism of the flag of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?
- If you were to be tasked with creating a flag for your class, what would it be?
This program takes a closer look at currency used in the 18th Century and Colonial America. Throughout the program, the following topics are discussed:

- What were the common problems with currency in the 18th Century?
- What were the main types of money and coins used in the 18th Century, particularly Colonial America?
- Why were there so many types of currency?
- How did Global trade and economic issues impact business and money in Colonial America?
- What is inflation?
- What problems with money and currency occurred during the American Revolution?
- How did currency in the 18th century impact the structure of our monetary system today?

**Program Length: 13 minutes**