

The Battle of Yorktown

Alexa Turnock

Junior Division

Individual Website

Process Paper Word Count:410

Website Word count:816

The Battle of Yorktown revolutionized the continental states on October 19th, 1781 and ended after three long weeks of fighting. The Continental army cornered the British troops, and soon after on October 19th, General Cornwallis sent a drummer and an officer with a handkerchief to surrender (History.com Editors). The new country, desperate for loans, eventually reformed a new stable currency with loans from France (History.com Editors).

The Battle of Yorktown ties to the National History Day theme, revolution, reaction, reform, because it helped to end the war with the final surrender and the later signing of the Treaty of Paris. The revolution was the British being cornered and later General Cornwallis reaction was surrendering. After the battle the new country needed loans and they eventually reformed and established a stable economy and government (Milestones in the History of U.S. Foreign Relations).

I chose the Battle of Yorktown because it was a major event in American history and it shows one of the most revolutionary battles during the Revolutionary War. I also chose the battle because I wanted to learn more about the people involved in the battle and why it was important. Something interesting I learned from my research was that General Charles Cornwallis at the official ceremony, General Cornwallis did not attend due to sickness (History.com Editors).

I conducted my research by finding helpful sources that helped cover most of the Battle of Yorktown. Primary sources that were useful or helpful were letters and drawings. A primary source that was helpful was the Letter from Cornwallis to Clinton that helped the reader understand the frustration from General Cornwallis after the surrender. Another source that was helpful was History.com although it is a secondary source it covers many different topics such as who was involved, when it was, where, and how it started. I found my primary sources by looking up "Battle of Yorktown primary sources", and for my secondary sources I simply looked up "Battle of Yorktown."

I created my website by using the same color for every page so that it looked neat. After I made the text all the same so that it did not look sloppy. I also put the text in the middle and not to one side. After I put my picture I tried not to make it boring so I put it on different types of

photos such as maps, photos of people, political comics, and the battle itself. I tried to make the website more mature looking so that it could catch peoples eyes.