

The Siege of Boston

The Siege of Boston was the opening phase of the American Revolutionary War. New England militiamen prevented the movement by land of the British Army, which was on the outskirts of the city of Boston. Both sides had to deal with resource supply over the course of the siege. British resupply and reinforcements were limited to sea access. The siege began on April 19th 1775 after the Battles of Lexington and Concord.

Later, the Continental Congress formed the Continental Army from the militia. In June 1775, the British with George Washington as its Commander in Chief, but their casualties were too heavy to break seized Bunker and Breed's Hills, but the Americans laid the Continental Army's hold on land access to Boston. Military actions during the remainder of the siege to the British-occupied city. Military actions during the remainder of the siege were limited to occasional raids, minor skirmishes and sniper fire.

In November 1775 Washington sent the daring 25-year-old bookseller, turned soldier, Henry Knox to bring to Boston the heavy artillery that had been captured previously. In a complex operation, Knox brought many cannons to the Boston area by January 1776.

Then, in March 1776, these artillery armed Dorchester heights (which overlooked Boston and its harbor), thereby threatening the British supply lifeline. The British commander, William Howe, saw the British position as indefensible and withdrew the British forces in Boston to the British stronghold at Halifax, Nova Scotia, on March 17th 1776. This day is celebrated today as Evacuation Day.

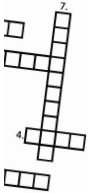
was commas for a list: (1)


year-old...

evacuated their troops from Boston at least one from Washington). (5)

American _____ War
Boston by militiamen?
ie siege.
ider who withdrew his forces?
for extra cannons and guns?
withdraw to Nova Scotia?

Chief of the Continental Army?
lay?
ie siege.
begin?
ra cannons?





Siege of Boston

5th & 6th Grade Close Reading Activity

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Later, the Continental Congress formed the Continental Army from the militia, with George Washington as its Commander in Chief. In June 1775, the British seized Bunker and Breed's Hills, but their casualties were too heavy to break the Continental Army's hold on land access to Boston. The Americans laid siege to the British-occupied city. Military actions during the remainder of the siege were limited to occasional raids, minor skirmishes and sniper fire



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The Siege of Boston

Comprehension

1 – What did New England militiamen prevent? (1)

2 – What was limited to sea access for the British army? (1)

3 – When did the siege begin? (1)

4 – What did the Continental Congress form from the militia? (1)

5 – Who was the Commander in Chief of this army? (1)

6 – What did Henry Knox have to do in November 1775? (2)

7 – How did Washington's army threaten the British supply line? (2)

8 – Who was the British Commander during the siege? (1)

9 – When and where did he withdraw British forces? (2)

The Siege of Boston

Grammar

10 – Find and copy a sentence from paragraph two that uses commas for a list: (1)

11 – Underline the adjective in the phrase below: (1)

In November 1775 Washington sent the daring 25-year-old...

Extension

12 – Write a newspaper report the day after the British had evacuated their troops from Boston – remember to include a good headline, and some quotes (at least one from Washington). (3)

The Siege of Boston

Questions

Comprehension Questions

- 1 – What did New England militiamen prevent? (1)
- 2 – What was limited to sea access for the British army? (1)
- 3 – When did the siege begin? (1)
- 4 – What did the Continental Congress form from the militia? (1)
- 5 – Who was the Commander in Chief of this army? (1)
- 6 – What did Henry Knox have to do in November 1775? (2)
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Grammar Questions

- 10 – Find and copy a sentence from paragraph two that uses commas for a list: (1)
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Answers

Comprehension Questions

- 1 - The movement by land of the British Army
- 2 – British resupply and reinforcements
- 3 – on April 19th 1775
- 4 – The Continental Army
- 5 – George Washington
- 6 – To bring to Boston the heavy artillery / Which had been captured previously (both for two marks)
- 7 – The artillery armed Dorchester Heights / which overlooked Boston and its harbour (both for two marks)
- 8 – William Howe
- 9 – Halifax, Nova Scotia / On March 17th 1776

Grammar Questions

- 10 – Military actions during the remainder of the siege were limited to occasional raids, minor skirmishes and sniper fire
- 11 – In November 1775 Washington sent the daring 25-year-old...

Extension

- 12 – 0-3 marks depending on detail

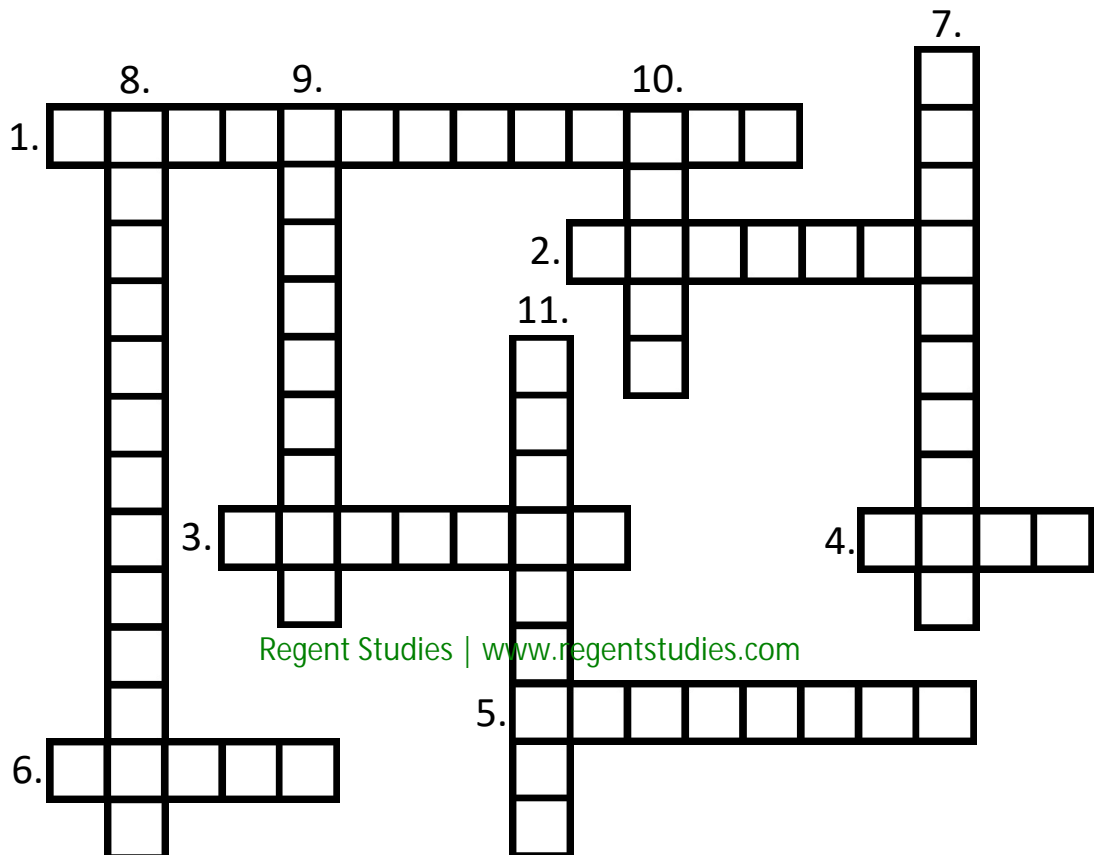
The Siege of Boston Crossword

Across

1. During which war did the siege take place? American _____ War
2. What army was stopped from moving from Boston by militiamen?
3. Name one of the battles that came before the siege.
4. What was the surname of the British commander who withdrew his forces?
5. In what month of 1775 did Washington send for extra cannons and guns?
6. In what month of 1776 did the British troops withdraw to Nova Scotia?

Down

7. What was the surname of the Commander in Chief of the Continental Army?
8. What is the day of 17th March celebrated as today?
9. Name another of the battles that came before the siege.
10. In what month of 1775 did the Siege of Boston begin?
11. What brave soldier did Washington send for extra cannons?



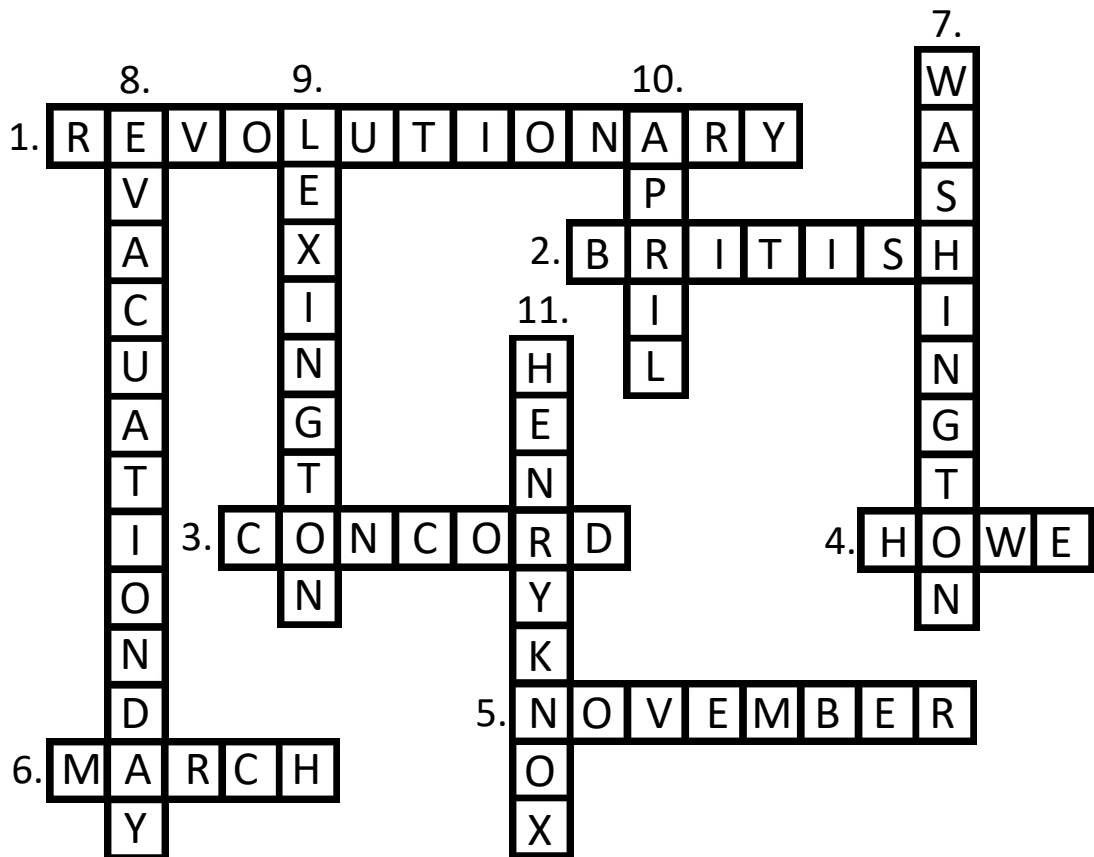
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Siege of Boston Wordsearch

Find all the words below that relate to the famous siege.



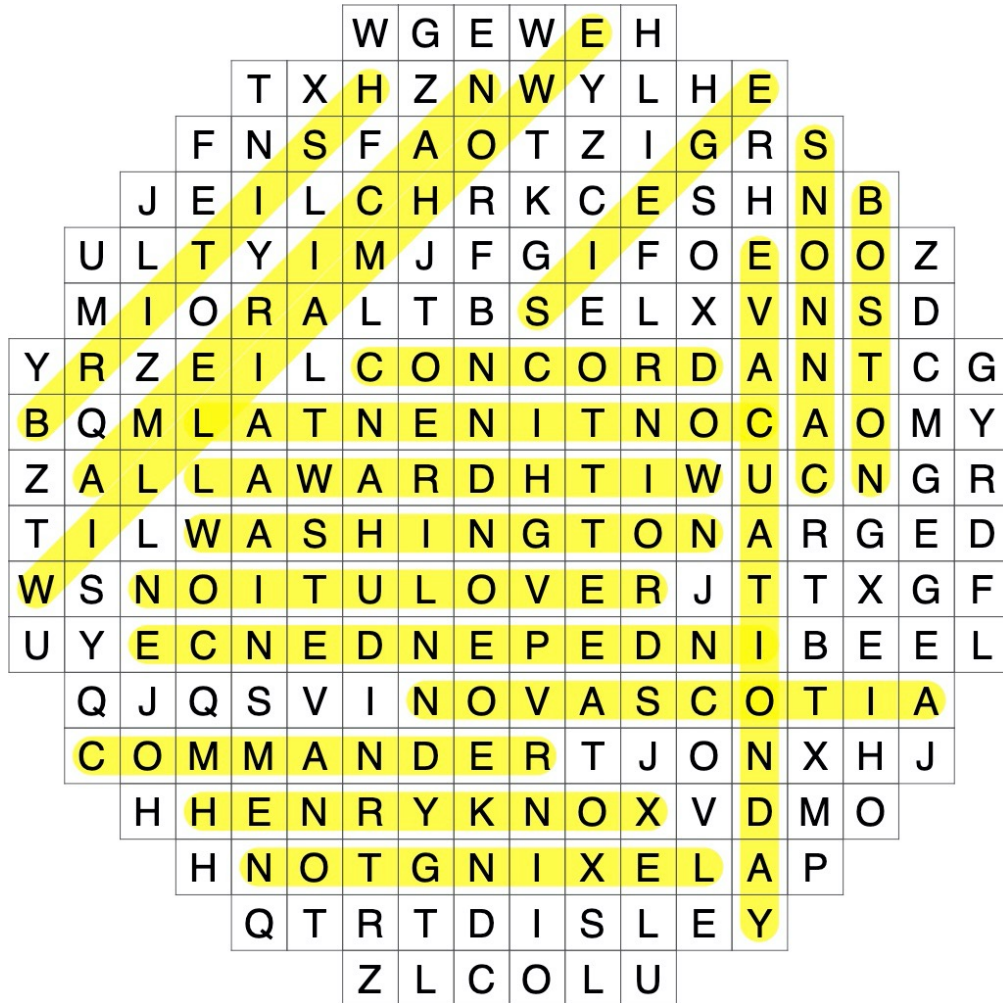
Siege
Boston
American
Revolution
Independence
Lexington

Concord
British
Continental
Washington
Commander

Henry Knox
Cannons
William Howe
Withdrawal
Nova Scotia
Evacuation Day

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