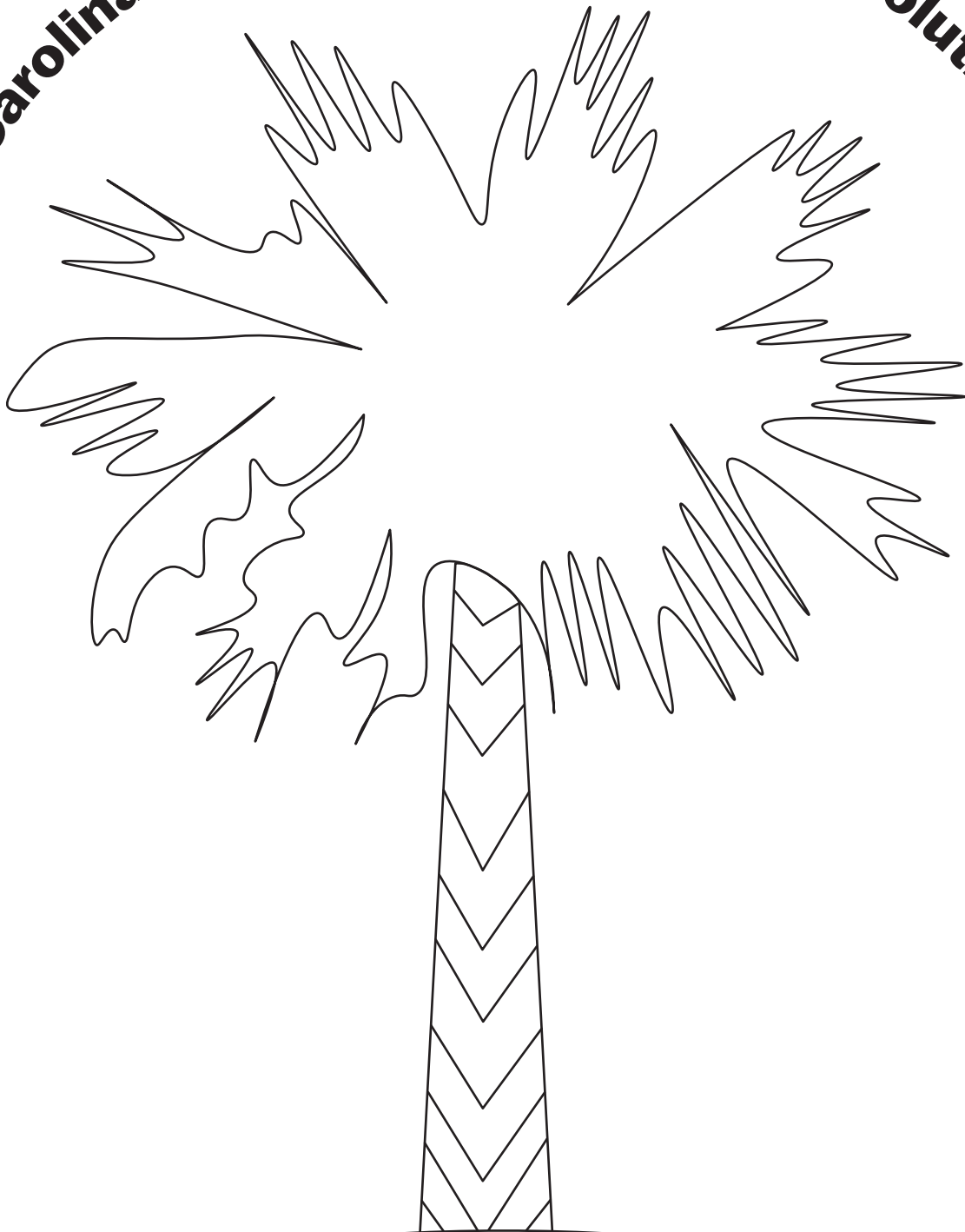


South Carolina's Guide to the American Revolutionary War



"Independence was won in South Carolina"



SC250

SC250 is the official state commission commemorating the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. Chartered by the General Assembly in 2019, our mission is to promote the history, people, and places that made South Carolina vital to independence. Every county in the state, all 46, has its own committees that work with the state commission. There is so much history across the state, and a passion for sharing it! We remind Americans, and people who live and visit the Palmetto State, that the war was truly won in the South — and South Carolina was at the center of it.



Meet Dewey!

Dewey is the mascot for the South Carolina State Library. He loves learning about South Carolina and is here to help you learn about South Carolina's role in the American Revolutionary War.

South Carolina State Library

The South Carolina State Library serves as the primary resource center for information and library services for the state of South Carolina. The State Library serves and supports the general public, the public library system, and state agencies and employees through various programs and services.

**To learn more about the South Carolina State Library
visit statelibrary.sc.gov**

South Carolina 250 Facts

Words to Know

American Revolution (noun) - a war from 1775–1783 in which the 13 colonies in North America gained independence from British rule and became the United States of America

Palmetto: (noun) - any of several low-growing palms with fan-shaped leaves

Patriots: (noun) - the people from the 13 colonies who rebelled against British control during the American Revolution

Fun Facts

Mighty Palmetto Trees: Fort Moultrie, formerly known as Fort Sullivan, was made from palmetto tree logs, sand, and clay. The fort withstood cannon fire from British ships during the Battle of Sullivan's Island because the palmetto trees absorbed cannonball impacts instead of splintering and shattering

Indigo Flag Origins: In 1775, Colonel William Moultrie was assigned the task of creating a flag for his troops. He chose blue from the South Carolina militia's uniforms, which were dyed with indigo – today's official state color.



Did you know that South Carolina is ranked second among all U.S. states for the number of battles, conflicts, and events during the Revolutionary War?

Word Search

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

American

Colonies

Colonists

Crescent

Fort

Gorget

Liberty

Militia

Moultrie

Palmetto

Patriots

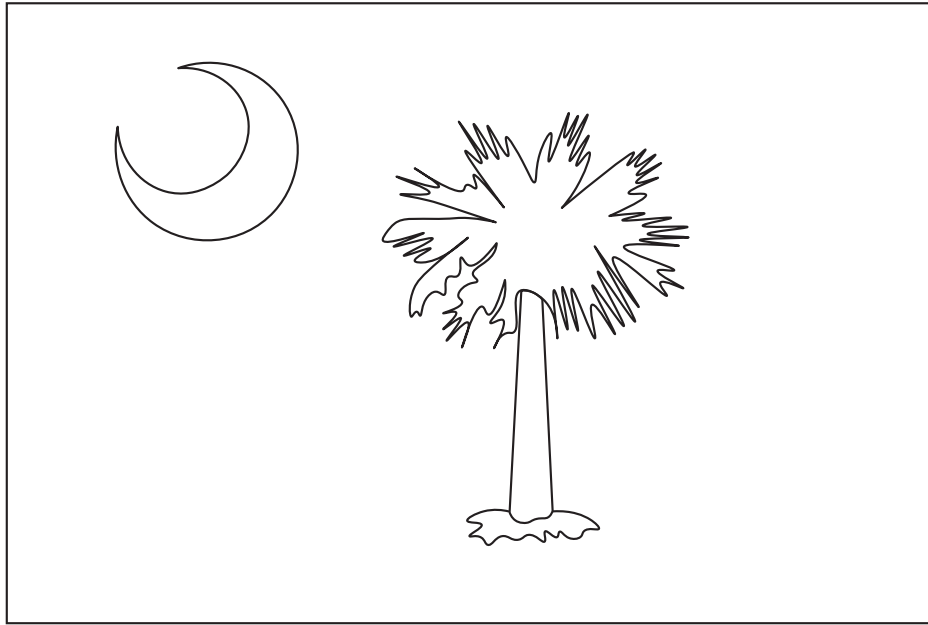
Revolution

Thirteen

Uniform

South Carolina State Flag

The General Assembly adopted the current version of South Carolina's flag on January 28, 1861. This version added the palmetto tree to Colonel William Moultrie's original design, which was used by South Carolina troops during the American Revolutionary War.



What do the symbols on the state flag stand for?

- The blue color of the flag represents the color of the uniforms South Carolina troops wore during the Revolutionary War.
- The crescent-shaped moon represents the silver emblem, a gorget, that was worn on the front of the soldiers' caps.
- The palmetto tree symbolizes Colonel Moultrie's heroic defense of the palmetto-log fort on Sullivan's Island against the attack of the British fleet.



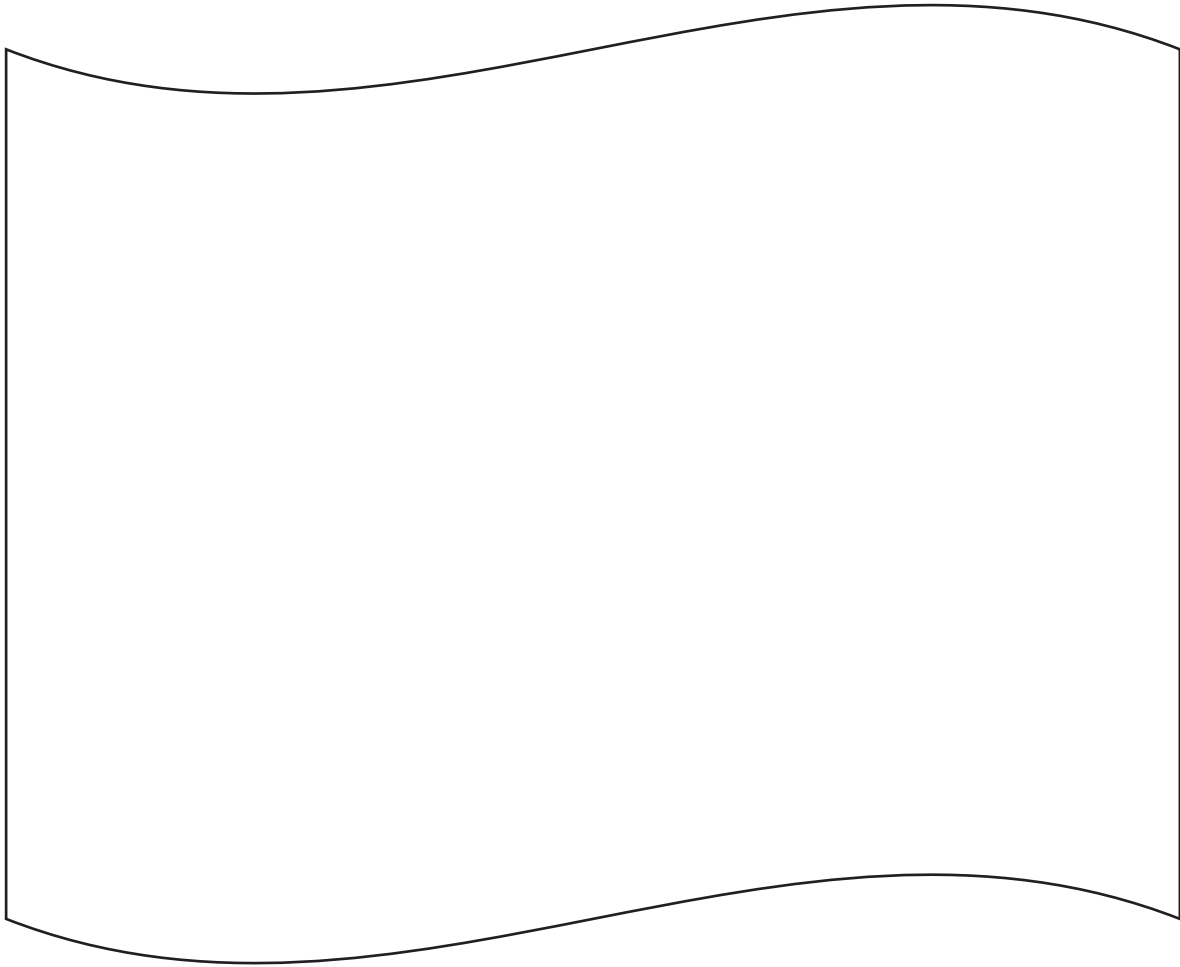
Is it a Crescent or a Gorget?

In 1775, Colonel William Moultrie designed the original crescent shape, putting the shape in the top left corner. This symbol and its meaning are topics of great debate among South Carolinians. Most think it is a moon, while others believe it is a gorget.

Create Your Own Flag

What colors and symbols will represent you on your flag?

Design, draw, and describe it.



Oh No the Timeline is Out of Order!

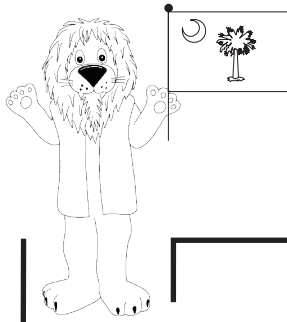
Can you help Dewey by numbering the events of the Revolutionary War in order?

	<p>April 21, 1775: Patriots Begin Gathering Arms in SC</p> <p>The South Carolina Secret Committee began capturing British weapons, starting with those stored at the State House in Charleston.</p>
	<p>June 1780 to September 8, 1781: Patriot Leaders Use Guerilla Tactics, Bolster Patriot Spirits</p> <p>Thomas Sumter, Francis Marion, Andrew Pickens, and others rallied local militia for battles and skirmishes, using guerrilla tactics to disrupt British supply lines and communication.</p>
	<p>July 4, 1776: Declaration of Independence</p> <p>A pivotal moment in American history, marking the formal declaration of the American colonies' intent to separate from British rule and establish themselves as independent states.</p>
	<p>1778: African Americans on Both Sides</p> <p>The militia law was amended so that one-third of the militia could include slaves, but only in support roles. John Laurens famously advocated for patriot service as a route to freedom for slaves, but this idea caused fear among many white South Carolinians, especially since African Americans outnumbered them, particularly along the coast. Seizing on this fear, the British offered freedom for military service and used African Americans as engineers.</p>
	<p>April 14, 1770: British Government in SC Comes to a Halt</p> <p>Britain forbade the South Carolina Treasury from issuing any money without the British governor's signature. The House of Assembly refused to comply, and the British government in S.C. came to a halt</p>
	<p>August 23, 1775: Colonies in Open Rebellion</p> <p>King George III rejected the Continental Congress's petition and declared that the colonies were rebelling against Britain.</p>
	<p>December 3, 1773: Tea Act</p> <p>A mass meeting in South Carolina agreed to boycott the new Tea Act, which gave the East India Company a monopoly on tea. This meeting laid the groundwork for independent government in South Carolina.</p>

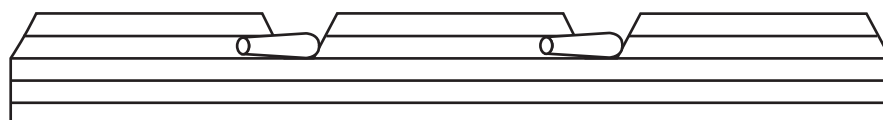
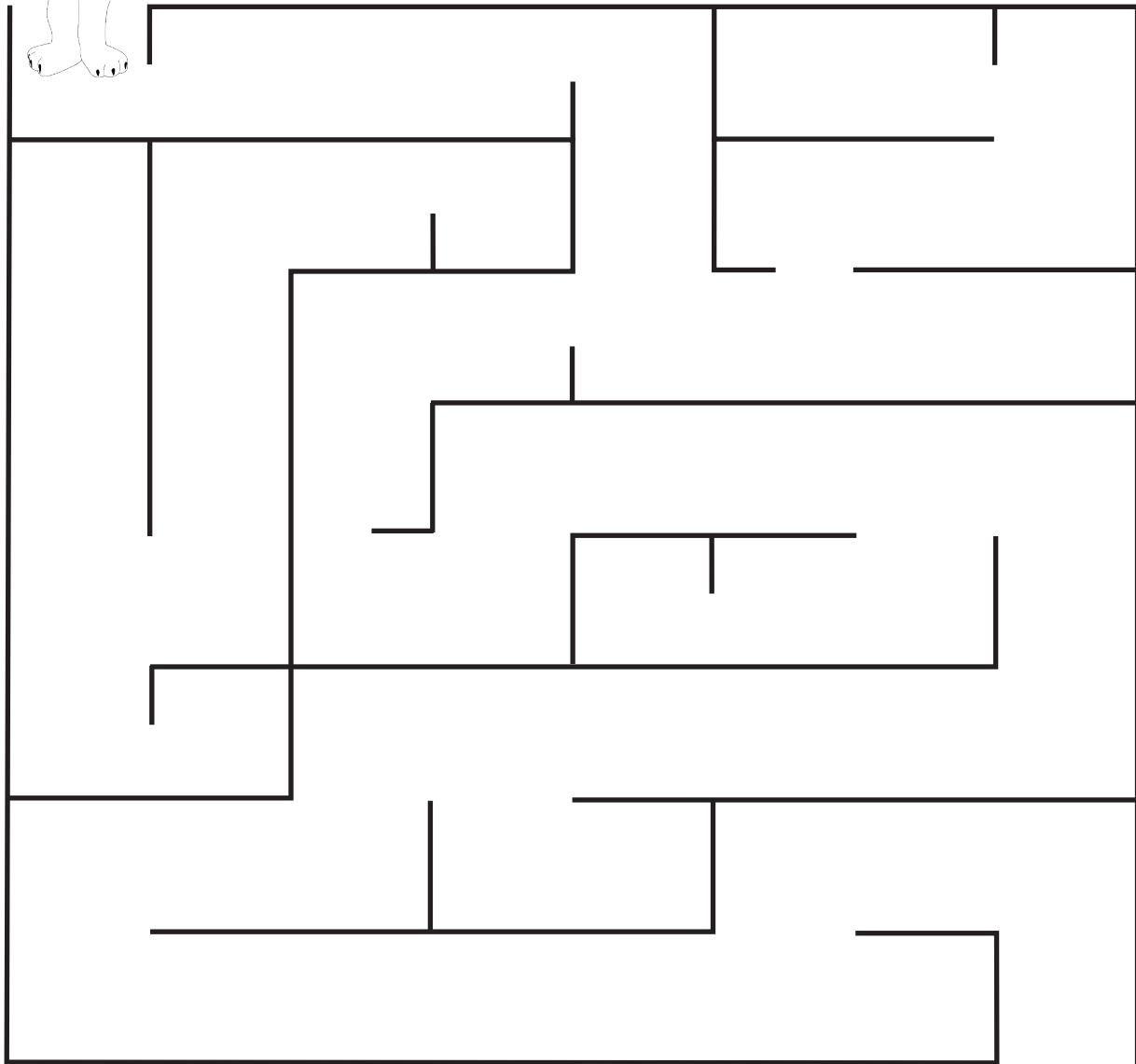
	<p>July, 1776: Native Americans on Both Sides</p> <p>South Carolina's Native Americans divided their loyalties due to longstanding rivalries. The Cherokee Native Americans supported the British and Loyalists. The Catawba Native Americans aligned with the Patriots. In retaliation for Loyalists and Cherokee attacks in the backcountry, Andrew Williamson led a Partisan militia against the Cherokee, destroying most of their towns east of the mountains.</p>
	<p>July 6, 1774: General Meeting in Charleston</p> <p>A general meeting in Charleston selected five delegates to the First Continental Congress and created the Committee of 99, which gave South Carolina state representation in government. It consisted of merchants, mechanics, and planters across the state, and its goal was to carry out the series of resolutions that the General Meeting had adopted.</p>
	<p>October 19, 1781: Cornwallis surrendered to Washington in Yorktown, Virginia</p> <p>While the Battle of Yorktown was the war's last major battle, South Carolina faced 14 additional months of bloody conflict before the British finally departed.</p>
	<p>March 26, 1776: Adoption of the First Constitution of SC</p> <p>South Carolina's Provincial Congress adopted its own government plan more than three months before signing the Declaration of Independence. The agreement was meant to last until conflicts with Britain ended.</p>
	<p>December 26, 1779: The Southern Campaigns Launched</p> <p>Sir Henry Clinton and Lord Cornwallis sailed from New York with 8,000 men to launch the Southern Campaign, a British strategy that called upon Southern Loyalists to quickly take control of the Southern colonies and restrict resources and support from reaching the North.</p>
	<p>June 28, 1776: Battle of Fort Sullivan</p> <p>British Major General Sir Henry Clinton and Commodore Sir Peter Parker attempted to capture Charleston (which was then the wealthiest city in the U.S.). Patriots repelled the British at the Battle of Fort Sullivan.</p>
	<p>November 19-21, 1775: First "Official" Blood in The South at Ninety-Six</p> <p>At Star Fort in Ninety-Six, South Carolina, Colonel Richard Richardson gathered over 4,000 militiamen to suppress Loyalists, American colonists who remained loyal to the British Empire. This became known as the Snow Campaign.</p>
	<p>January 17, 1781: Battle of Cowpens</p> <p>The Battle of Cowpens near Chesnee, South Carolina, was a critical American victory in the Revolutionary War. This engagement further weakened British attempts to wrest the southern colonies from American control.</p>

William Jasper

William Jasper, a sergeant in the 2nd South Carolina Regiment, distinguished himself in the defense of Fort Sullivan during the Battle of Sullivan's Island on June 28, 1776. When a shell from a British warship took out the South Carolina flagstaff, Jasper retrieved the flag and hoisted it on a makeshift staff until a new one was installed—all while under fire! In recognition of his bravery, Governor John Rutledge presented his sword to Jasper.



Help Dewey find his way through the maze to Fort Moultrie



John McCord

John McCord was a 13-year-old boy living in the Long Canes area of Abbeville County. Despite his young age, McCord was eager to join the fight for freedom, and in the summer of 1776, he volunteered to serve under Captain Joseph Pickens. Captain Joseph Pickens noted that McCord should serve by gathering provisions, shelling corn for the troops, watching over supplies, caring for the sick, supervising prisoners, and carrying messages. McCord agreed to serve in this role until he came of age. A few years later, McCord completed a tour under Captain Moses Liddell and then joined a unit tasked with guarding the blockhouse at Fort Pickens near the Square. Later, John joined a special bodyguard unit for Andrew Pickens to accompany him to Tolls Station on the Saluda River.

Margaret Catherine Moore Barry

Katy Barry, born Margaret Catherine Moore, played a vital role as a messenger and spy for the American troops, earning her the title “Heroine of the Battle of Cowpens.” During the Battle of Cowpens, Katy was notable for using her extensive knowledge of local woods and trails and set out on horseback to warn her neighbors of the British advance. On January 17, 1781, the British attacked, and the American soldiers successfully defeated the British at the Battle of Cowpens. This further weakened their effort to take control of the Southern Colonies and played a role in the British defeat at Yorktown, Virginia, later that year. Some stories even place Katy fighting alongside her husband, General Andrew Barry. Katy received medals for her work as a messenger and spy. Her legacy is remembered at Walnut Grove Manor in South Carolina.

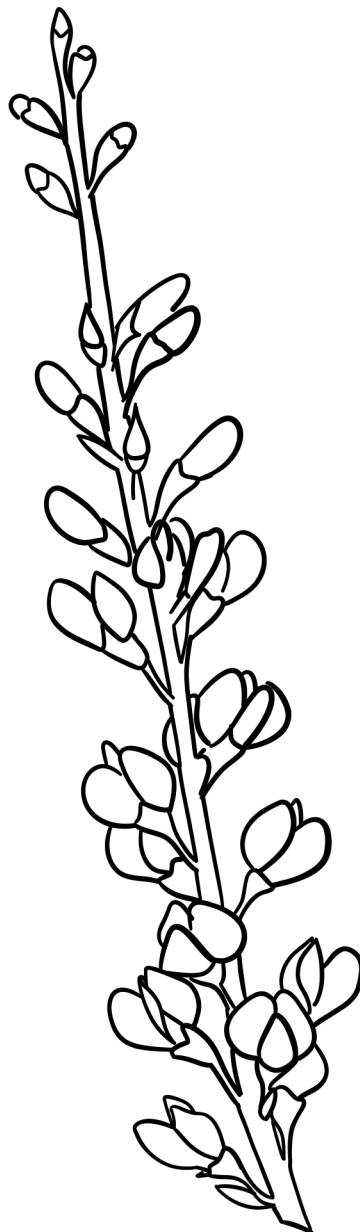


Katy Barry had extensive knowledge of the local woods and trails near her home. Can you name some things you might find in the woods?

Eliza Lucas Pinckney

Eliza Lucas Pinckney is famous for developing a blue dye and becoming the first woman inducted into the South Carolina Business Hall of Fame. Her story is anything but ordinary for a woman of her time. Eliza is credited with perfecting indigo as a Carolinian cash crop at 16 years old. She eagerly supported the Revolution and helped Francis Marion (the “Swamp Fox”) evade British troops by distracting a group of soldiers at Hampton Plantation near Georgetown.

Color in the Indigo plant below

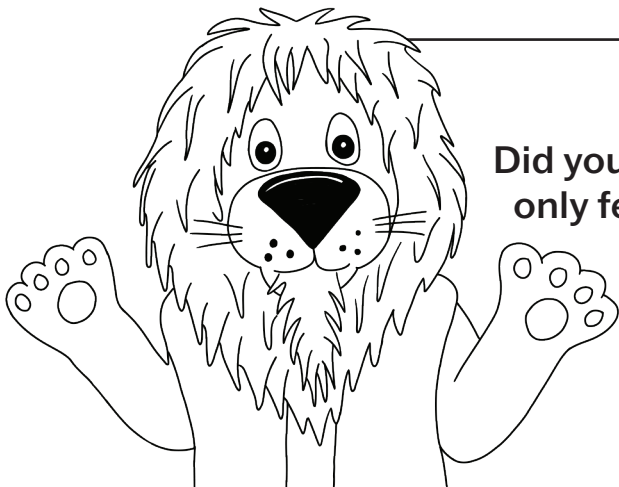


Peter Harris

Born in 1753, Peter Harris was a Catawba Indian raised near present-day Fort Mill, South Carolina, and served in the Continental Army during the American Revolution. In June 1777, Harris enlisted in the Battalion of Georgia Minutemen to fight for American independence. Two years later, he joined the 3rd South Carolina Regiment. and served for a year. Harris fought in the Battles of Stono Ferry, Rocky Mount, Hanging Rock, and Blackstock's Farm. In recognition of his military service, Harris received a 200-acre bounty land grant on Fishing Creek in Chester County, South Carolina. In 1823, Harris died and was buried in Fort Mill, South Carolina. His tombstone reads, "The Body of Peter Harris A Catawba Indian by His Request Was Buried Here 1823."

Francis Salvador

In 1747, Francis Salvador was born into a prominent Jewish family in London, England, with connections to the British East India Company. In 1773, Salvador moved to the Ninety-Six district in South Carolina to rebuild his family's fortune. His indigo plantation in Ninety-Six, known as Corn Acre, was part of over 200,000 acres his uncle and father-in-law, Joseph Salvador, had acquired earlier. That land covered more than half of present-day Greenwood County. Salvador was elected to South Carolina's First Provincial Congress in January 1775, becoming the first Jewish person to hold political office in the state. He became a vocal supporter of independence, which led to his re-election to the Second Provincial Congress in November 1775, where he helped raise funds for the new militia units. In July 1776, Salvador earned the nickname "Southern Paul Revere" for his 30-mile horseback ride to warn militia units of an impending Indian attack. A month later, he led a group of militiamen toward the Keowee River, where British and Native American forces ambushed them. Salvador was wounded and died from his injuries at the age of 29.



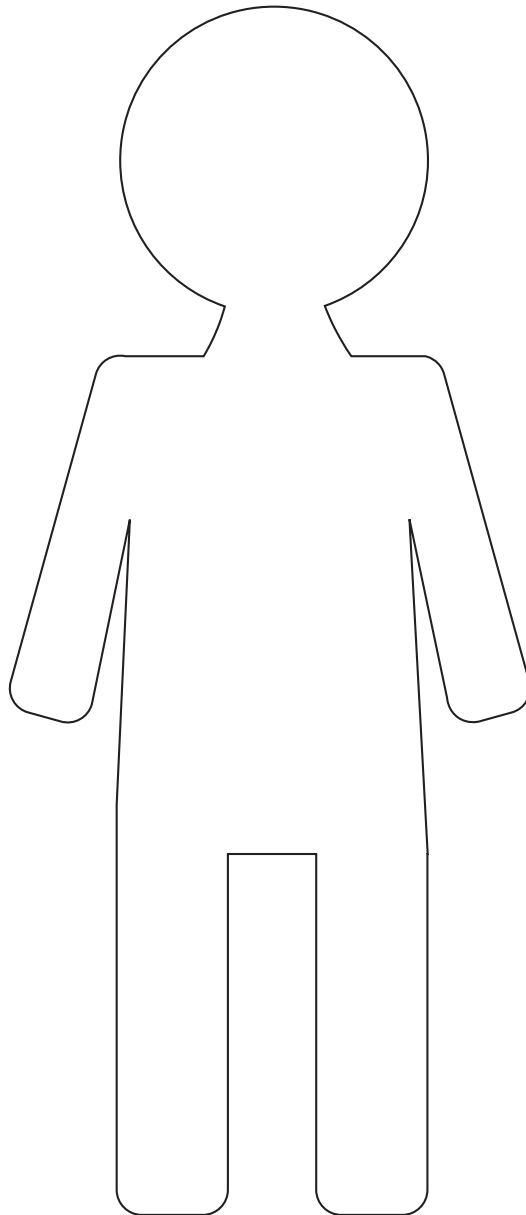
Did you know that the Catawba Indian Nation is the only federally recognized tribe in South Carolina?

Jim Capers

Jim Capers was a free Black American born on a plantation in South Carolina. Capers served as a drum major in the 4th South Carolina Regiment in the Revolutionary War. Capers' vital role as a drum major aided communication between officers and soldiers, as the music could be heard over the noise of the battle.

Did you know that drummers' uniforms in the military were the opposite colors of soldiers' uniforms? Why do you think this was done?

Design your own Revolutionary War uniform.



Dewey's Notable Patriots Quiz

1. What plant is used to make blue dye?
2. Who was nicknamed the “Southern Paul Revere”?
3. What was the Jim Capers role as drum major?
4. When did the the Battle of Sullivan’s Island happen?
5. How old was John McCord when he volunteered to serve under Captian Joseph Pickens?
6. Name the four battles Peter Harris fought in.
7. What did Katy Barry have extensive knowledge about?

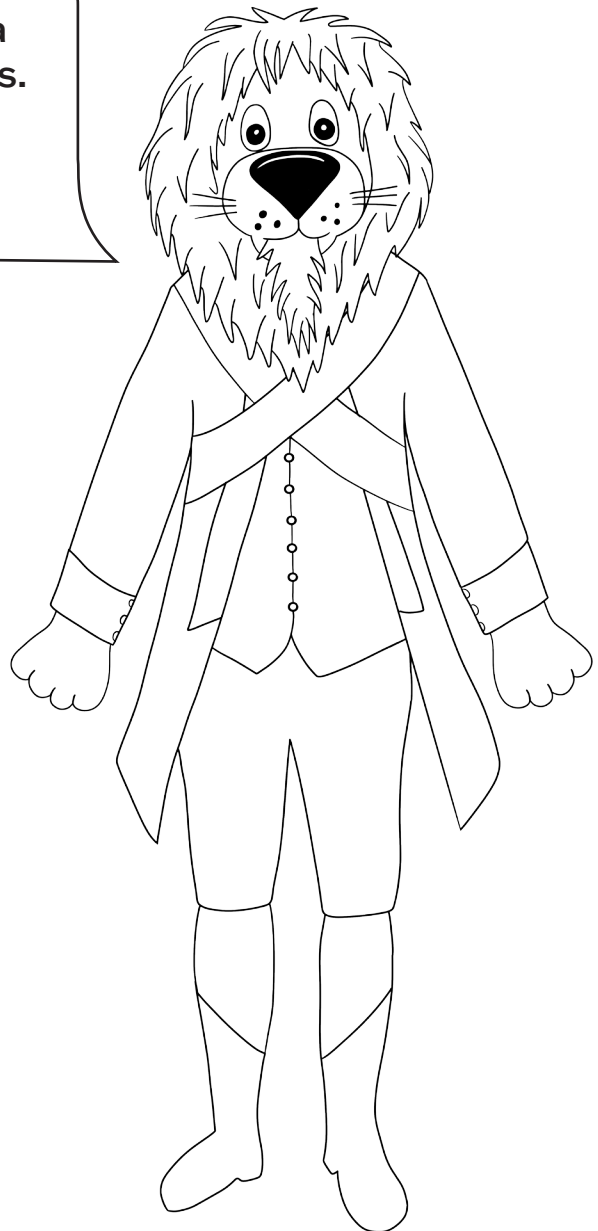
Muskets

Did you know that reloading a Revolutionary War-era musket could take up to 20 seconds? That's the same amount of time it takes to sing an entire song of "Happy Birthday." This meant that soldiers could only fire three to four shots per minute.

The main weapon of choice during the American Revolutionary War was the Long Land Pattern Musket, or smoothbore muzzleloader, used by both the British army and patriotic rebels.

Soldiers either loaded their weapons individually or as a unit.

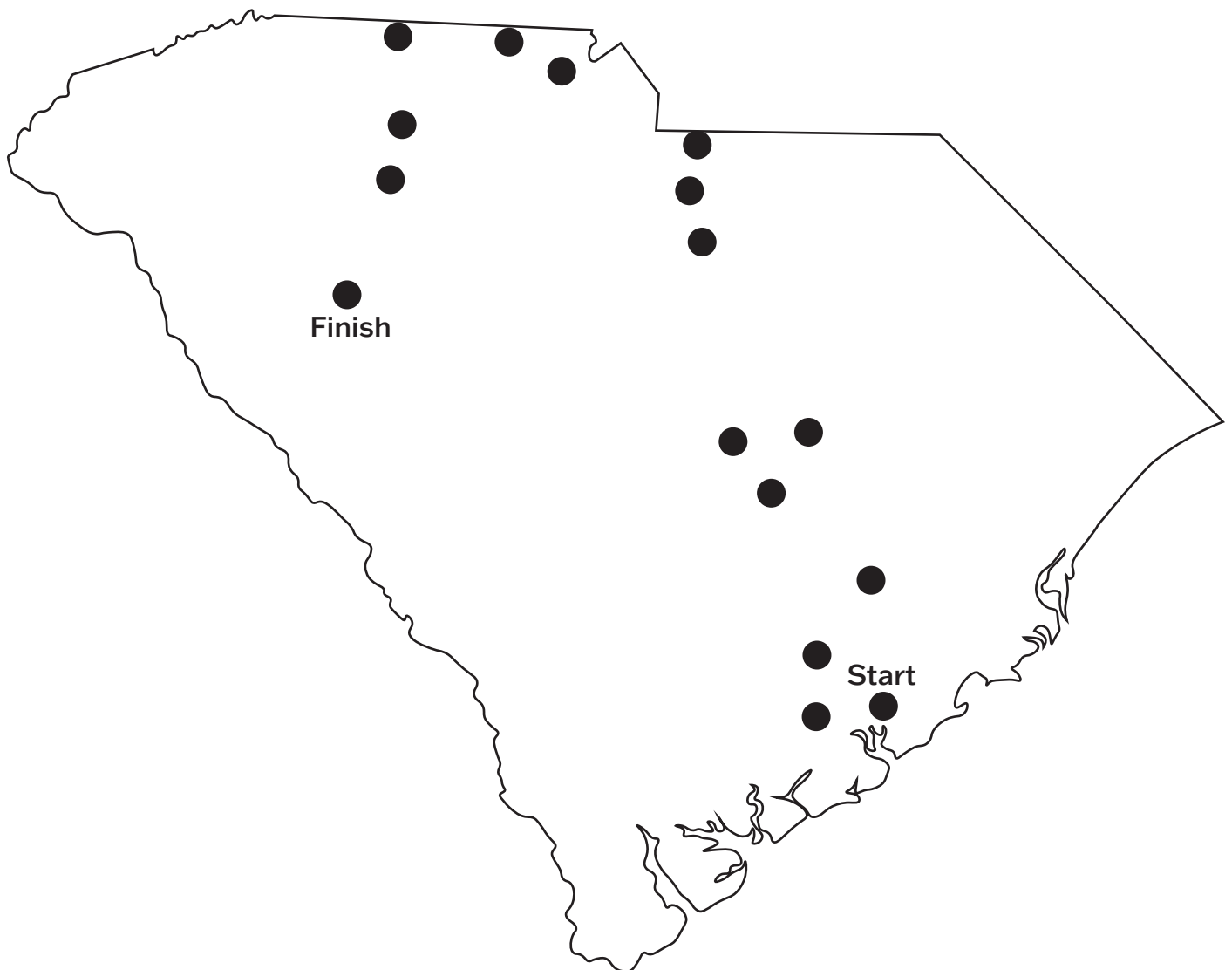
**Reloading a Revolutionary War-era musket could take up to 20 seconds.
How many things can you do in
20 seconds?**



Liberty Trail

Many historians believe that America's independence during the Revolutionary War was decided in the South's swamps, fields, woods, and mountains, and was won through the resilience and determination of Continental soldiers and Patriot militia. The events from 1776 to 1782 in South Carolina directly contributed to an American victory in the war. This history is known as the Liberty Trail. There are 36 battle sites spread across seven regions along the Liberty Trail that bring South Carolina's Revolutionary War history to life. The main goal of the Liberty Trail is to preserve sacred battlegrounds. So far, over 700 acres at nine battlefields have been preserved. To learn more about the Liberty Trail, download The Liberty Trail S.C. App.

Connect the dots on the Liberty Trail



Carolina Day

Carolina Day honors the victorious Battle of Sullivan's Island during the American Revolutionary War. General Moultrie and a small group of South Carolina Patriots successfully defended a small fort on Sullivan's Island against the British Royal Navy. This victory led to the creation of the South Carolina state flag.

Charlestonians celebrated the first anniversary of the decisive Battle of Sullivan's Island on June 28, 1777.

Over time, it continued to be celebrated in Charleston and throughout the state, sometimes called the Anniversary of the Battle of Fort Moultrie, Palmetto Day, or Sergeant Jasper's Day.

By 1875, it became permanently recognized as Carolina Day.

Today, the National Park Service hosts events to honor Carolina Day each year, sometimes on June 28 or on the weekend closest to the battle's anniversary.

Battle of Sullivan's Island and Carolina Day Quiz

1. **What was the name of the fort on Sullivan's Island?**
2. **What type of trees were used as logs for Fort Sullivan?**
3. **Who risked their life to save the "Moultrie Flag" after a cannonball knocked it down during the Battle of Sullivan's Island?**
4. **What year was the palmetto tree symbol added to the state flag?**
5. **When was did Carolina Day become permanently recognized?**

1. Fort Sullivan 2. Palmetto 3. William Jasper 4. 1861 5. 1875

Quiz Answers

To learn more visit

historiccamden.org

knowitall.org

nps.gov

scbattlegroundtrust.org

scdiscus.org

schistory.org

scmuseum.org

simplyrevolutionary.com

southcarolinaexplorer.com

southcarolina250.com

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