**Arms**
Weapons and ammunition used in warfare, such as guns, swords, and bullets.

**Abolition**
The act or actions of a person or group to legally end a system of oppression, such as slavery.

**Artifacts**
Man-made or modified objects that are of historical or cultural significance. These are studied by historians, archeologists, and anthropologists to gain an understanding of how people of the past lived.

**Artillery**
Cannon or other large weapons that are too heavy for a person to carry. This term also refers to the branch of an army that uses these types of weapons.

**Besiege**
A military tactic that involves surrounding or attacking an enemy position from all sides for an extended period of time.

**Bias**
The belief or prejudice that some people, ideas, behaviors, things, etc. are better or worse, or more or less valuable, than others. These views are often based on stereotypes rather than facts or reasoned judgment.

**Bicentennial**
The two-hundredth anniversary of a significant event.

**Boycott**
A form of protest in which people refuse to buy or engage the services of an organization or person.

**Broadsword**
A large, heavy sword with a wide, double-edged blade and decorated handle.

**Cartridge Box Plate**
A decorative metal symbol or plaque found on the leather flap of cartridge boxes. They often feature symbols of European monarchs and rulers. Cartridge boxes were worn by soldiers during the Revolutionary War to carry cartridges (paper tubes filled with gunpowder and lead musket balls) and were important tools for keeping gunpowder dry.

**Casualties**
The number of people in military service that are unable to serve further due to death, injury, capture, or desertion.

**Desert**
To abandon a military post or position without permission and without the intention of returning.

**Dialects**
Particular forms of a language that are specific to certain regions or people.

**Dragoons**
Infantrymen who rode on horseback and dismounted to fight on foot. The Continental, British, and Hessian armies all had dragoons. These soldiers used swords, pistols, and short muskets to fight at close range.

**Encampment**
A temporary military site which typically consists of huts or tents alongside kitchens, latrines, and stables where troops can rest and prepare for battle. Also: the act of residing at one of these sites. During the Revolutionary War, the longest encampments were during the wintertime when fighting did not typically occur.

**Grapeshot**
A cluster of small cast-iron balls contained in a canvas bag that would scatter when fired from a cannon.

**Hessian Jäger**
Elite soldiers carrying short rifles who were part of the armies from the German “principalities” of Hesse-Hanau and Hesse-Cassel that fought alongside the British during the Revolutionary War. “Jäger” is the German word for hunter. During the war, some Hessian Jäger fought on horseback and carried swords.

**Historical Thinking Skills**
Skills used to interpret, analyze, and understand the past. These skills include researching using a variety of primary and secondary sources (asking questions about their context, perspective, and purpose), connecting the causes and effects of historic events, and considering how these events shape our lives today.

**Insignia**
A badge or symbol worn by officers and soldiers of an army to display their rank, their loyalty, or the unit they serve with.

**IOU**
An abbreviated form of the phrase “I owe you,” often used to refer to a signed document acknowledging a debt.

**Legislature**
An organized group of people who make laws to govern a community, state, or country.
Light Infantry
A group of lightly equipped, elite foot soldiers who move quickly while marching or in battle. Groups of light infantrymen often lead attacks and engaged in scouting missions.

Lineage
Family connections that link individuals in one generation to individuals in the previous and following generation. Line of descent tracing one generation to the next.

Loyalist Units
Military companies made up of Loyalists (American colonists loyal to King George III) who joined the British Army during the Revolutionary War.

Minutemen
Soldiers specially selected from local militias (groups of soldiers organized by a colony or state for local defense) who were required to be ready for military service on short notice.

Missionary
A member of a religious group sent into an area to promote their religion and offer charitable services such as education and medical care.

Multiethnic
A term used to describe a group made up of people from several ethnic groups.

Obelisk
A monument most often made of stone in the shape of a tall column.

On Parade
When a formation of soldiers marches together for ceremonial purposes to show the strength and unity of an army.

Pension
A specific amount of money a person receives from a government as payment for their past public service (including in the military) or to help pay for their living expenses when they reach a certain age.

Plunder
Stolen food, equipment, and people taken by force during a military raid or battle.

Privateer
A private sailing ship that has been authorized by a government to attack and capture supplies from an enemy vessel in a time of war. The term can also be used to describe a sailor who serves aboard a privateer ship.

Promissory Note
A written promise by one person or group to pay another person or group a defined sum of money at a later date.

Propaganda
Information and ideas that are created and shared—via news, imagery, music, literature, and other cultural products—to promote a cause or shape people’s opinions. Propaganda often contains highly exaggerated or even falsified information or ideas in order to achieve its goals.

Quota
A certain amount of something that a person or group is required to receive or contribute.

Regiment
A unit of soldiers in an army commanded by a colonel. During the Revolutionary War, regiments were typically made up of hundreds of soldiers.

Repositories
Buildings, containers, or rooms where items are placed or stored.

Stockbridge Indians
A multiethnic group of Native Americans that included Mahican, Housatonic, and Wappinger peoples from New York and Massachusetts who converted to Christianity and settled in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, a town founded by English missionaries in the 1730s. They supported the American Revolution. Many descendants of the Stockbridge Indians are now members of the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians. Forced to relocate west by the United States, the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians is now based on a reservation in Wisconsin. They are federally recognized as an independent nation, meaning they have their own government and laws, but receive certain federal benefits, services, and protections.

Sovereignty
The authority of a state to govern itself without outside intervention.

Widower
A man whose wife has passed away and is not remarried.