WHAT IS EXPLORED IN THIS CHAPTER?
We are beginning our unit on the exciting days of the American Revolution. This chapter discusses issues of dissatisfaction that led to the war, political ideas that shaped the revolutionary movement, key events and people in the war, and reasons why the colonies were able to win.

WHERE COULD WE GO TO ENHANCE WHAT MY CHILD IS LEARNING?
- Williamsburg
  Colonial Williamsburg
- Mount Vernon
  George Washington’s home
- Beaverdam
  Patrick Henry’s Scotchtown
- Brookneal
  Red Hill Patrick Henry National Memorial
- Richmond
  St. John’s Church
- Charlottesville
  Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello
- Yorktown
  Yorktown Battlefield and Yorktown Victory Center
- Chesapeake
  Great Bridge Battlefield Park and Visitor’s Center

WHAT QUESTIONS SHOULD I ASK TO HELP MY CHILD PREPARE FOR THE TEST? These are the SOL Essential Questions for this standard. Answers are on the next page.
- What steps did Great Britain take to increase control over its colonies?
- Why did many colonists become dissatisfied with Great Britain’s control over the colonies?
- What ideas/philosophies about government were expressed in the Declaration of Independence?
- Who were some of the key individuals in the Revolutionary War?
- What role did key individuals play in the Revolutionary War?
- What were some of the key events that occurred during the Revolutionary War period?
- What advantages helped the American colonists win the Revolutionary War?

WHAT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO DISCUSS WITH MY CHILD?
The following topics would be great to discuss at dinner or in the car.
- If your family has been to Independence Hall in Philadelphia, or the National Archives in Washington, D.C., review the trip with your child with the SOLs in mind.
- Talk about taxes. Ask your child what he or she already knows about how taxes are collected today and what is done with the money. Then fill in what is missing. Discuss the differences and similarities between the taxes we pay today and those that the colonists paid to Great Britain.
- Debate which of the key philosophies expressed in the Declaration of Independence your family agrees with, and which you disagree with.
- Ask your child which revolutionary individual made the biggest impression on him or her and what specifically was so impressive.
Essential Knowledge for Chapter Five (USI.6)

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the causes and results of the American Revolution by

a) Describing the religious and economic events and conditions that led to the colonization of America:
   - Great Britain’s reasons for control: Great Britain desired to remain a world power; in the American colonies, Great Britain’s desire to remain a world power resulted in a conflict with the French known as the French and Indian War; Great Britain imposed taxes, such as the Stamp Act, to raise necessary revenue to pay the cost of the French and Indian War.
   - Great Britain’s reasons for taxation: to help finance the French and Indian War; to help with the maintaining of British troops in the colonies.
   - Sources of colonial dissatisfaction: colonies had no representation in Parliament; some colonists resented power of colonial governors; Great Britain wanted strict control over colonial legislatures; colonies opposed taxes; The Proclamation of 1763, which followed the French and Indian War, restricted the western movement of settlers.

b) Identifying how political ideas shaped the revolutionary movement in America and led to the Declaration of Independence:
   - Key philosophies in the Declaration of Independence were based upon ideas first expressed by European philosophers.
   - People have "certain unalienable rights" (rights that cannot be taken away)—life, liberty, pursuit of happiness.
   - People establish government to protect those rights.
   - Government derives power from the people.
   - People have a right and a duty to change a government that violates their rights.

b) Describing key events and the roles of key individuals in the American Revolution, with emphasis on George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and Patrick Henry:
   - King George III: British king during the Revolutionary era.
   - Lord Cornwallis: British general who surrendered at Yorktown.
   - John Adams: Championed the cause of independence.
   - George Washington: Commander of the Continental Army.
   - Patrick Henry: Outspoken member of House of Burgesses; inspired colonial patriotism with "Give me liberty or give me death" speech.
   - Benjamin Franklin: Prominent member of Continental Congress; helped frame the Declaration of Independence, helped gain French support for American independence.

- Paul Revere: Patriot who made a daring ride to warn colonists of British arrival.
- Boston Massacre: Colonists in Boston were shot after taunting British soldiers.
- Boston Tea Party: Samuel Adams and Paul Revere led patriots in throwing tea into Boston Harbor to protest tea taxes.
- First Continental Congress: Delegates from all colonies except Georgia met to discuss problems with Great Britain and to promote independence.
- Battles at Lexington and Concord: This was the site of the first armed conflict of the Revolutionary War.
- Approval of the Declaration of Independence: Colonies declared independence from Great Britain (July 4, 1776).
- Battle of Saratoga: This American victory was the turning point in the war.
- Surrender at Yorktown: This was the colonial victory over forces of Lord Cornwallis that marked the end of the Revolutionary War.

d) Explaining reasons why the colonies were able to defeat Britain:
   - Some colonists’ defense of their own land, principles, and beliefs.
   - Additional support from France.
   - Strong leadership.