

Pictures of the Battle of Princeton

Document 1 – James Peale, *The Battle of Princeton*, ca. 1782

Source : <https://artmuseum.princeton.edu/collections/objects/44709>



Document 2 – John Trumbull, *The death of General Mercer at the battle of Princeton, January 3rd, 1777*, ca. 1789 – ca. 1831

Source : <https://artgallery.yale.edu/collections/objects/101>



Document 3 – William T. Raney, *Washington rallying the Americans at the battle of Princeton, 1848*

Source : <https://artmuseum.princeton.edu/collections/objects/22043>



Document 4 – Brückner D. MacLellan, *Washington at Princeton, January 3rd 1777*, ca. 1853

Source : <https://www.loc.gov/resource/pgs.02146/>



Document 5 – Louis Kurz, *The battle of Princeton, 1911*

Source : <https://calisphere.org/item/O84530bc3d7351ca5c873c8f4c1da1ea/>



Document 6 – Alonzo Chappel, *Battle of Princeton, 1859*

Source : <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/510d47e0-f567-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99>



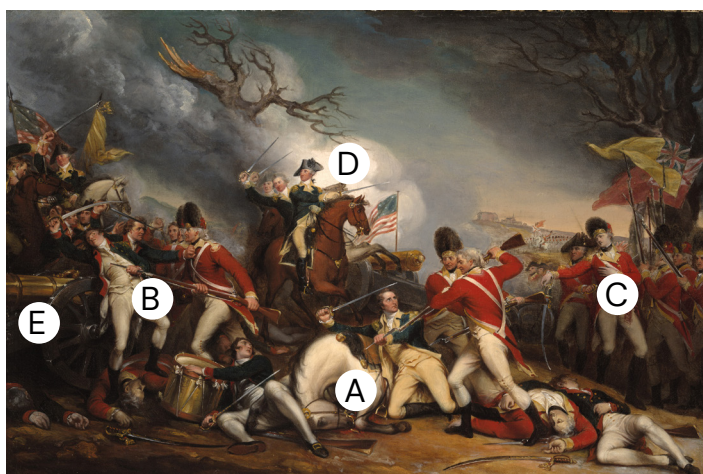
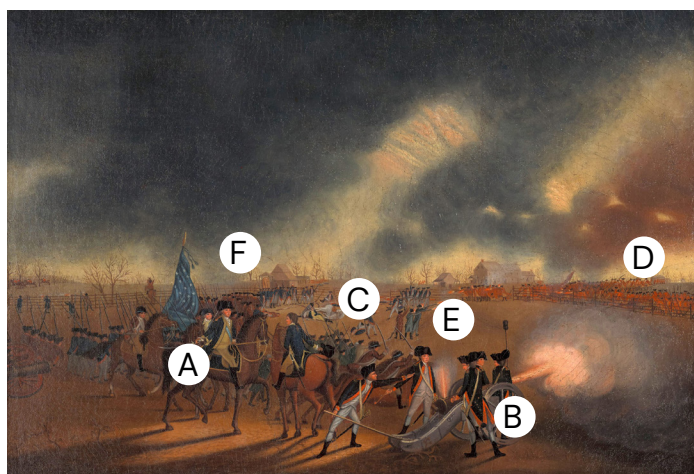
1. Fill the chart below

	Doc. 1	Doc. 2	Doc. 3	Doc. 4	Doc. 5	Doc. 6
Nature						
Author						
Title						
Date (when was it completed?)						

2. Are the authors contemporary with the events?

3. Find out about James Peale: what was the Peale brothers' role during the War?

4. Painting 1 and 2: identify the different elements represented on the paintings / match the letters on the painting with the elements represented.



James Peale's battle of Princeton	Letter	John Trumbull's battle of Princeton	Letter
The British troops are waiting, in line of battle		General Mercer fighting for his life	
Three soldiers from the Philadelphia City Troops are riding forward		Georges Washington rallying his troops	
George Washington arrives at the scene		Death of Captain William Leslie of the British 17th regiment	
An American cannon is firing		An American cannon being overrun by the British troops	
American General Hugh Mercer lies wounded. He was left for dead by the British troops		Death of the American captain Daniel Neil	
American infantry is joining and preparing for the attack			

5. What are the similarities and differences between Peale and Trumbull's depictions?

	Similarities	Differences
Subject represented		
Pictorial representation		

6. Give your opinion : Which representation do you find more accurate, historically speaking? Justify your answer.

7. Compare and contrast the representations of the battle: what is the image given of G. Washington? What are the artists seeking to convey about him? Justify your answer.

8. WRAP UP activity – Dramatization.

Use the appropriate specific vocabulary learned in this lesson to imagine the speech that G. Washington delivered to his troops on the evening of January 3, 1777. The speech must highlight the strategic importance of this victory for the continuation of the war. In small groups, students are given prep time to write down the outline of the speech, then they present it to the audience.

FINAL ACTIVITY
WRAP UP activity – Passing down knowledge

Using all their answers from the chapters and the specific vocabulary, students are asked to present in front of a younger audience the key issues of the American Revolution and War of Independence. They will introduce George Washington and highlight the battle of Princeton.