

Study Guide



Chapter 6, Section 3

For use with textbook pages 177–182

THE WAR MOVES WEST AND SOUTH

KEY TERMS

blockade	To close off cities and ports with ships (page 179)
privateer	Privately owned merchant ships equipped with weapons (page 179)
guerrilla warfare	A small band of soldiers appears suddenly, attacks, and disappears (page 180)

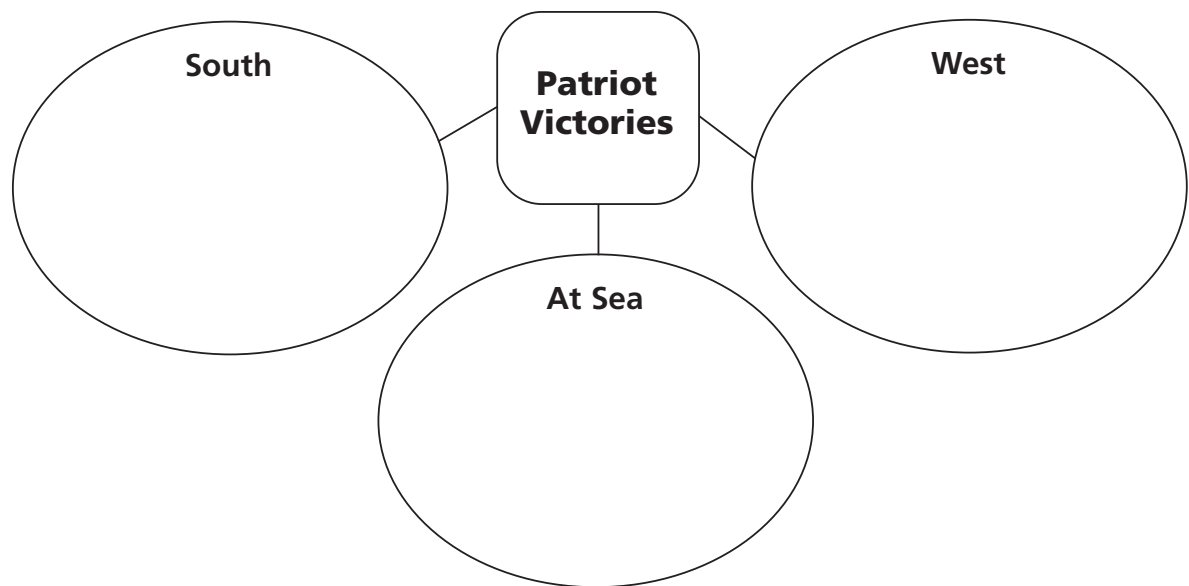
DRAWING FROM EXPERIENCE

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have a war fought on American soil or at sea along our coasts? How would your life change? How would you feel if your father or brothers had to go off to war? What would happen if members of your family supported different sides?

In the last section, you read about the hardships the Patriots faced and the help they received from European countries. This section focuses on how the war spread to the West and South.

ORGANIZING YOUR THOUGHTS

Use the chart below to help you take notes as you read the summaries that follow. Think about the Patriot victories that were won in the South, the West, and at sea.



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READ TO LEARN

- **War in the West** (pages 177–178)

Many Native Americans on the Western frontier helped the British who were less of a threat to them. They raided American settlements and attacked Americans. British commander Henry Hamilton in Detroit paid money to the Native Americans for the scalps of settlers. George Rogers Clark of the Virginia militia and his soldiers wanted to end the attacks on settlers. They captured the British post at Kaskaskia in what is now Illinois and captured the town of Vincennes in present-day Indiana. The British soldiers recaptured Vincennes and later surrendered to Clark. This gave the Americans a stronghold in the West.

1. How did George Rogers Clark weaken the British?

- **Glory at Sea** (pages 178–179)

Fighting occurred on land and at sea. The powerful British navy **blockaded**, or closed off cities and ports, with its fleet of ships. American and allied ships could not enter or leave American harbors, which cut off supplies and foreign troops. Thirteen American ships were built, but many were captured by the British or destroyed by Americans to prevent British from getting them. American **privateers**, or private merchant ships with weapons, were more successful than the American navy. Congress paid approximately 2,000 privateers to attack the British. John Paul Jones, an American naval officer and hero, raided British ports and attacked the British warship *Serapis* off the coast of Britain by sailing in a French ship. After a great battle, the British ship surrendered and Jones's ship sank.

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2. Why did Americans rely on privateers during the war?

• **Struggles in the South** (pages 179–182)

The British decided to change their plan, use sea power, and concentrate in the South where there were many Loyalists. In the early years, the Americans had saved Charleston. In late 1778, British troops took control of the coastal city of Savannah, Georgia. Charleston, the worst American defeat of the war, surrendered in May. In July 1780, British forces were victorious against American forces in Camden, South Carolina. The British were unfamiliar with *guerrilla warfare*, however. Small bands of soldiers suddenly appeared, attacked, and then disappeared. The British could not stop these secretive attacks. They could not catch a notorious rebel named Francis Marion, known as the Swamp Fox.

When the Patriots forced the British to retreat from Kings Mountain, North Carolina, they received more support from the Southerners. The Southerners were tired of their homes and farms being ruined and wanted to end the war. In January 1781, the Americans won a battle at Cowpens, South Carolina, but lost a battle at Guilford Courthouse in Greensboro. Even though the American forces retreated, the British lost many soldiers and gave up on the Carolinas. The British troops went north to Virginia and almost captured Thomas Jefferson and the Virginia legislature. Cornwallis and his British troops waited at Yorktown for further orders.

3. What was a popular war strategy of the Patriots in the South?
