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If You Lived At The Time Of The American Revolution



Synopsis

If you lived at the time of the American Revolution--What started the American Revolution?--Did everyone take sides?--Would you have seen a battle?Before 1775, thirteen colonies in America belonged to England. This book tells about the fight to be free and independent.

Book Information

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Lexile Measure: 860L (What's this?)

Series: If You

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (40 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This Book is a very good source for helping teach what everyday life was like for both the Patriots and Loyalists during the Revolutionary War. Although I am not an expert on the Revolutionary War I do know quite a bit about the time period and am a stickler for historical accuracy. I am also a stickler when it comes to revisionist history or creating a historical bias due to omitting facts so I am very careful about the sources I use when teaching history to my second graders. While I think the book did a good job of presenting the perspectives of both Patriots and Loyalists the book did go a little heavy on the abuse suffered by Loyalists from Patriots. Both sides suffered abuse from the other but the book fails to mention that Patriots also suffered the same abuse by Loyalists. Example: both Loyalist and Patriots had homes and property seized and burned- not just Loyalists as the book implies. The book also made a huge historical error in stating that George Washington's older brother Lawrence remained a staunch Loyalist during the Revolution resulting in family division. This

is simply not true. Lawrence had been dead many years before the beginning of the Revolution having died while George was still a teen-ager. It was from Lawrence that George inherited Mount Vernon. George did have other brothers but all of them served on the Patriots side. It may be that the author confused Lawrence with George's in-laws some of whom remained Loyalists, but when writing a historical book, especially one whose purpose is to educate children, correct factual detail is a must. This was a big mistake to make and one that could easily have been avoided just by double-checking facts. If this book is ever reprinted I hope this mistake will be corrected. Despite the error I found, this book had a lot of good information and was a valuable resource in teaching my second grade students about the Revolutionary War. I just made sure I expanded or explained where needed.

I thought that this book was a great example of how all of our history books should be written: from multiple perspectives! All we ever hear about our history is the positive patriotic version that is sugar coated and mostly false. For once, someone has written a story for children that shares both sides of the story: Loyalist and Patriot. This book beautifully compares and contrasts the viewpoints of both sides, the impact the war had on both sides, and some of the important figures, both Loyalist and Patriot. Excellent book to get your children thinking critically about the American Revolution!

According to the Author's note, the purpose of this book is to show what America lost by winning the Revolution. She portrays the loyalists having been treated unfairly by the patriots, to the point of not being able to send their children to school, not being able to speak freely, and being in fear of being attacked and having their homes burned down. She fails to mention any dangers faced by the Patriots. This book is horribly one sided. I bought this for my neice, but would be ashamed to actually give it to her as a gift.

I had read prior editions of this book and found it helpful for establishing historical context for a more engaging work, as it was quite dry on it's own. I am horrified by the current edition with illustrations in which many of the human faces are bizarrely distorted. My daughter and I never made it to the text -- she was too unsettled and turned off by the illustrations. Find an old edition or simply do not buy.

We have other in you books that we really enjoyed while my son learned some history. This book is listed for ages 9-12 but assumed much more pre-knowledge of the american revolution than

children that age would have. There was no real history attached minus some people were loyalists and some were patriots. What information that was in this book was lost for the 9-12 year old group because it is a difficult read for the age. The words are probably typical content and timeframe accurate but not explained and the book is too conceptual not fact based. Overall reading the book it was clearly written with a agenda - which was not to inform you of the timeframe or life in the timeframe but rather that war is bad. A fine message for a book not titled If You Lived at the Time of the American Revolution. Either the age range or information contained should be adjusted.

I send my tax money to the United States of America, not to England. I don't think the winning and losing sides are subject to opinion in this matter. Some people on here have claimed that both points of view were presented, but it is really biased toward the Loyalists. That said, it does have some interesting information about life at that time. I liked the uniforms of the English but wished there were also pictures of Patriot uniforms as well.

I have many books from the "If you Lived During..." for my students and it seems no matter what grade I teach, they are always very popular books with my kids. They're informative in a kid-friendly way with realistic illustrations. These are great books for unit studies as well. Teacher recommends!

Kay Moore's excellent book is of tremendous value to young students of history because it contributes something rare for younger readers -- some insight into the other side of the story of the American Revolution. Not every colonist was in favor of war, and many fled for their lives rather than refuse to follow their conscience. Many in the colonies felt they owed their comfortable lifestyle to England, and had no intention of biting the hand that had fed them so well. They also felt that they had the rights and privileges of free British men and women, and needed no rebellion to secure it. Much like the Civil War, families were torn apart by this issue, sometimes father against son, and brother against brother. To not tell this story would be an injustice to both sides. Kate Moore's magnificent book, If You Lived At The Time of The American Revolution is an absolute must for students. Adults can learn a great deal from it as well.

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