

# *Profiles from History*

*Heroes of America's Growth and Freedom*

*- Volume 2 -*



*Ashley M. Wiggers*

Profiles from History - Volume 2  
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## *Dedication*

To the great men and women of this country's history, thank you for your inspiration.

To my husband and my parents, your love and support made this possible.



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## Instructions

In *Profiles from History - Volume 2*, I tried to take a unique perspective on each historical figure by sharing some of the lesser known facts that you may not have learned before. For instance, when learning about Joshua Chamberlain and Stonewall Jackson, I didn't focus merely on their achievements in battle, but more on their strength of character. As you read each profile it is my hope that you will connect with the person, not just the history.

In this book you will read about authors, scientists, statesmen, and everyday people that made a significant difference in the world around them and forever changed the future. Beginning around 1770 and continuing through 1930, the exploits of many famous people are described with an eye to seeing their motivations and the impact their lives had on others.

Use *Profiles from History* either to enhance lessons in history and social studies or as a stand-alone book. Choose the fun projects in this book according to the interests of each student. Select as many or as few of the activities as you would like. Each profile can be used as a read-aloud, or your student can use the story for independent reading. To get the full benefit from each profile, I recommend students use several of the following activities provided to tap into the different approaches taken:

*Discussion questions:* inspire critical thinking and help the student relate to each historical figure.

*Follow-up activities:* relate to the accomplishments of each profile, connecting the child by hearing, seeing, and doing to the importance of each person's story.

*Word games:* such as word searches and crossword puzzles focus on key words to remember from the profile while increasing comprehension and vocabulary.

*Critical thinking activities:* include sequencing of events and determining the meaning of words using context.

*Maps:* help students visually pinpoint either the location where the historical figure came from, or the area in which the main event of their life took place.

*Timelines:* give the student an overview of the time period in which the historical figure lived and connect each person with other important events occurring at the same time. A reference timeline is included with each profile. Students are instructed to place timeline figures on a timeline. This timeline and the figures are located in the back of the book before the answer keys.

### *Also Available*

*Profiles from History - Volume 2* activities and reproducibles in digital format for your convenience.

If you enjoy the format and focus of this book you may be interested in *Profiles from History - Volume 1*. This book includes profiles of men and women that greatly influenced the exploration and founding of our country in the time period of 1200 -1890.



## Patrick Henry

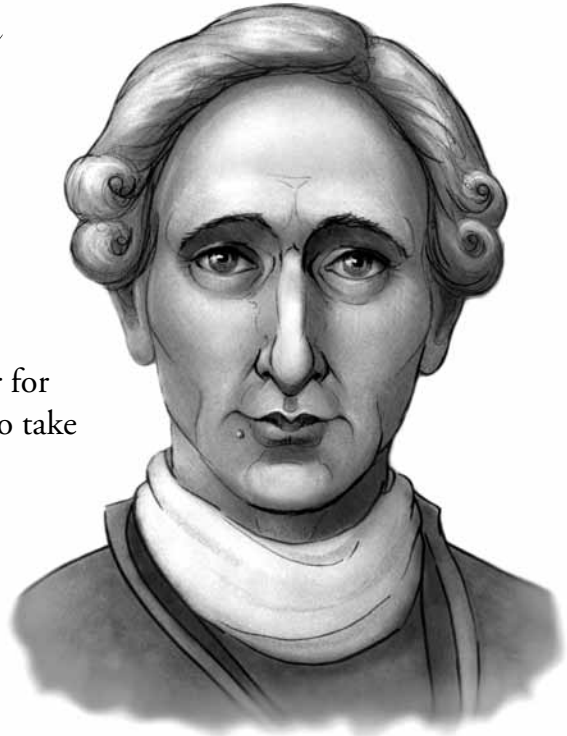
**A**n orator, by definition, is “a public speaker, especially one who is eloquent or skilled.” Patrick Henry is known for being one of the most famous orators of the American Revolution. He was such a fearless and gifted speaker that when our country was on the verge of a war for independence, he gave people the courage to take that step toward freedom. It was in the year 1775 when he gave his most passionate and famous speech. It was so empowering that afterward the crowd is said to have jumped up and yelled, “To arms! To arms!”

These were some of his words:

*“Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!”*

Patrick had an average upbringing, raised by loving parents in a typical home along with his brothers and sisters. He tried his hand at several different professions as a young man. But it wasn't until he was twenty-four years old that he found his true calling—the study and practice of law. Becoming a lawyer set the stage for his immense role in America's fight for independence.

Typically, when a person wanted to become a lawyer in the late 1700s he would either be apprenticed under someone with experience, or he would study law in England. Patrick Henry decided to take the third, more difficult option of teaching himself. Virginia, where he lived, required that those wanting to become lawyers must appear before a board of examiners who were appointed by a general court.



One of the obstacles Patrick had to overcome in his life was that he was poor as a young man. He dressed in plain clothes and was very much an outdoorsman. He loved to hunt and fish, and simply enjoyed being outside. When he first came before the law examination board in Williamsburg, the men were reluctant to see him because of the way he looked. Undoubtedly they wondered if this country boy was intelligent enough for such a prestigious position. It must have taken great courage for him to stand before those wealthy and well-educated men.

Needless to say, they did see him and were astonished by his knowledge and strength of speech. He received his license to practice law. However, this young man's law career did not really begin until a few years later with a case called the Parson's Cause. After winning this case, Patrick Henry became a household name and was widely revered as the people's champion.

The Parsons Cause came about when the colonists passed an act that restricted the amount of payment a clergymen (or parson) from the Anglican Church would receive. Since the clergy were considered servants of the state, their salaries were to be paid through the taxation of the people. The restriction on their payment was necessary because times were hard, and crops were not yielding good enough harvests for the town to be able to pay the wages. Some clergymen decided to sue in order to get their full salaries.

Henry fought for the people who would have to pay the clergy, namely the farmers and the townspeople, who had precious little to spare. He argued that the clergyman wanted to take money away from the very people he was supposed to be helping. Patrick Henry didn't start his speech with the confidence and stature for which he would later be known. But as he spoke, he began to stand a little straighter and speak with a little more authority. By the end of his speech the crowd and the jury were whole-heartedly behind him. They awarded the clergyman one penny in damages, and Patrick Henry became a hero. One account states that the people lifted Henry up on their shoulders after the jury had spoken, and Henry's father, who was the presiding judge in the case, was moved to tears.

After his fame spread, Henry was asked to fill a vacancy in the House of Burgesses. The Virginia House of Burgesses consisted of a group of men (representatives from different counties and cities) who were a kind of legislature. Amidst such leaders as

Thomas Jefferson and George Washington, it took Henry only nine days to make his presence known. The Stamp Act had just been permitted by the King and declared that a tax be paid on every single piece of paper used by the colonists. The House of Burgesses had not approved this act. A distant and tyrannical government that did not seem to have their best interests in mind was forcing it on them. So Patrick Henry submitted resolutions that opposed the Stamp Act. These resolutions would be the first actions in the revolution.

Loved and respected by the people Henry served in many different ways, During the Revolutionary War he led the militia which was entrusted with Virginia's safe-keeping. He served as a member of the Continental Congress. He became Virginia's first governor, under the new Constitution, and ultimately served five terms. One of our esteemed Founding Fathers, Patrick Henry served this country with a kind of determination and fervor that may have been unmatched. He earned the admiration and respect of some of the most remarkable leaders this country has ever seen. It is with great gratitude and humility that we remember this hero of our past, who fought desperately for our future.

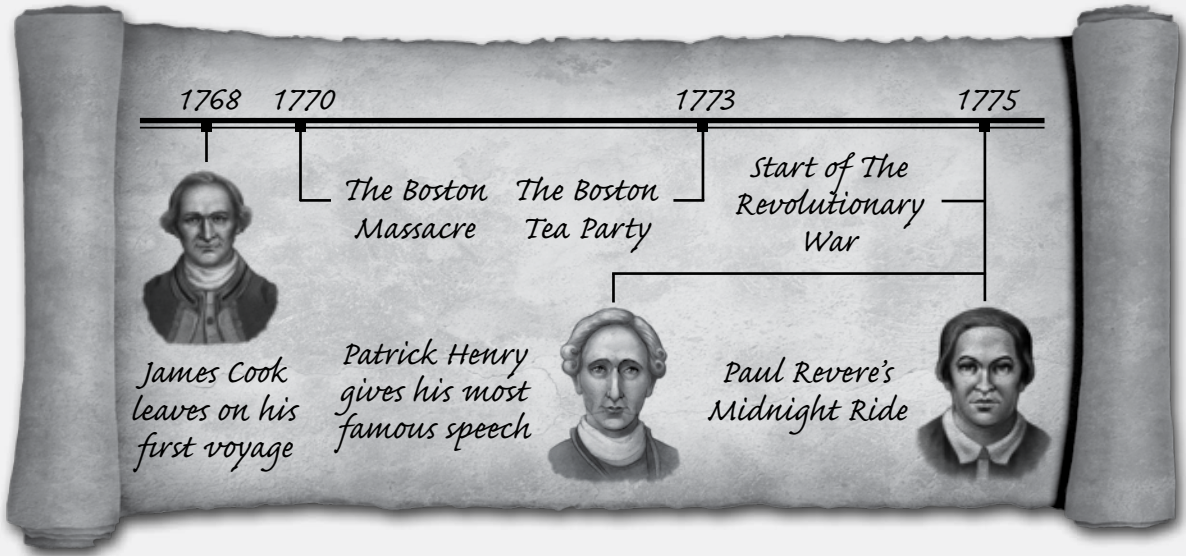
## *Discussion*

Reread the excerpt of Patrick Henry's speech in paragraph 2. In your own words, retell what Henry said. Do you think he was willing to take this course of action even if no one else did? Is there anything that you believe in that you would be willing to speak boldly about, even if no one else agreed with you? Tell your parent or teacher about it. Have you ever spoken up about something and been the only person who felt that way? How did you feel? Did other people oppose or disagree with you? Did it make it hard to continue in your beliefs? Compare your feelings to those of Patrick Henry. Does this make his speaking out even more impressive to you?



## Timeline Review

Put things in perspective. Place Patrick Henry's figure on the timeline in the year 1775, which was when he made his most famous speech. Look at the other events before, during, and after this year.



## *Activity*

You are going to consider two positions and make a list of points that support each one. After you have done this, which position was easier to support? Why do you think so?

Position 1: My country is the best country in the world.

Position 2: My country is not the best country in the world.

How do you think this activity relates to the study of Patrick Henry? Do you think he would have been able to equally support both positions? Why or why not?

## *Wordscramble*

Here is a list of scrambled words that relate to the profile you read about Patrick Henry. Unscramble the letters and write the words correctly.

- |                 |       |               |       |
|-----------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| 1. ratHyPenikrc | _____ | 6. iiVinagr   | _____ |
| 2. srasoeauCnP  | _____ | 7. tamSpctA   | _____ |
| 3. tarroo       | _____ | 8. odsotunmra | _____ |
| 4. aamsntest    | _____ | 9. ephcse     | _____ |
| 5. ylewar       | _____ | 10. naopsr    | _____ |

## Before and After

Read the event on the left side and the event on the right side. Then decide if the first event (on the left) happened **before** or **after** the second event (on the right). Choose the word in the middle column that is correct. You may circle the correct answer or draw a line from the words *before* or *after* to the matching event.

1	Patrick Henry gave his famous "Give me liberty, or give me death!" speech.	Before	After	The Revolutionary War began.
2	Henry was asked to fill a vacancy in the House of Burgesses.	Before	After	Patrick Henry earned his license to practice law.
3	The Revolutionary War began.	Before	After	Henry submitted resolutions opposing the Stamp Act.
4	Henry argued the case called the Parson's Cause.	Before	After	Henry led the Virginia militia during the Revolutionary War.
5	Henry was elected Governor of Virginia.	Before	After	Henry was a member of the Continental Congress.

## *Patrick Henry Word Search*

X B I T G K E S B V C J T Y S L D C J  
 N E Z B E C H T G O R K U B B A H U W  
 D O R A T O R A R U B O C W W W A Z P  
 G Z T R I Y S T A K O Z C T N Y Q Q A  
 Y H Q I H D X E B K O M H H Y E T J T  
 F Q A P K Y Q S W S H K Z G W R B T R  
 G Y O S P K J M O U S T A M P A C T I  
 H C S P C V I A L N P H C D I J G U C  
 Q S T E N G P N P A R S O N W U K S K  
 J Z Q E Y W O U T D O O R S M A N G H  
 D E F C G P R I C H N G I Q N G P Z E  
 F L C H Y T R X O T F B E F W A S Z N  
 A P A R S O N S C A U S E K X S P U R  
 W C E M A B Q A H R V I R G I N I A Y  
 O A Q H D P Q Q P K P O Z L U E O G A

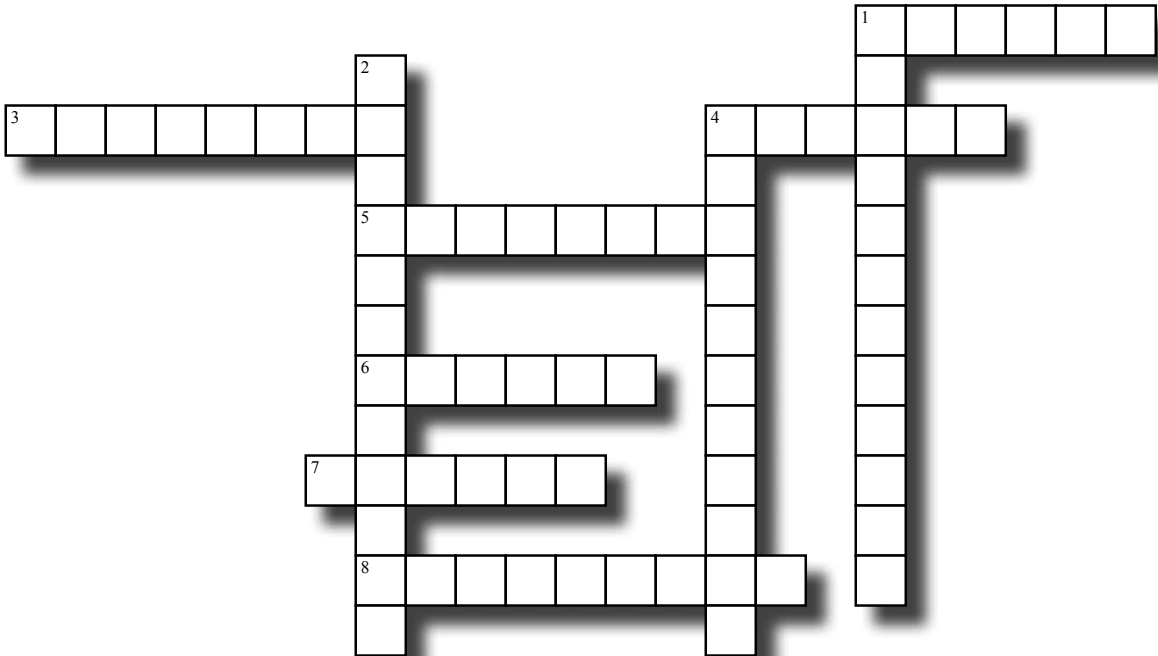
### *Word Bank*

lawyer  
 orator  
 outdoorsman  
 parson  
 Parson's Cause

Patrick Henry  
 speech  
 Stamp Act  
 statesman  
 Virginia



## Patrick Henry Crossword



### Across

1. a clergyman in the Anglican church
3. one of the original thirteen colonies that became a state
4. someone skilled in speaking
5. a tax requiring payment for any paper used in the colonies
6. a talk given before an audience
7. someone who is qualified to give legal advice and representation
8. a widely respected senior politician

### Down

1. lawyer, statesman, and orator from Virginia
2. a case that challenged an English tax
4. someone who spends much time in outdoor activities