

# Revolutionary Verses

**Background Information:** The Battle of Lexington and Concord took place on the morning of April 19, 1775 in Massachusetts. At the time, no one knew this marked the beginning of an eight year war for independence.

## Main Ideas:

- Fearing open rebellion in the spring of 1775, Thomas Gage, the Royal Governor of Massachusetts, ordered the seizure of weapons and powder being stored in Concord.
- British troops were halted in Lexington, where a skirmish took place with local minutemen. The British then advanced to Concord where they were met with rebellion and forced to retreat.

## Skills:

- Creativity
- Critical Thinking
- Writing



## Questions to Consider:

1. Why do humans create art about historic events?
2. How does this art affect our memory of an event?

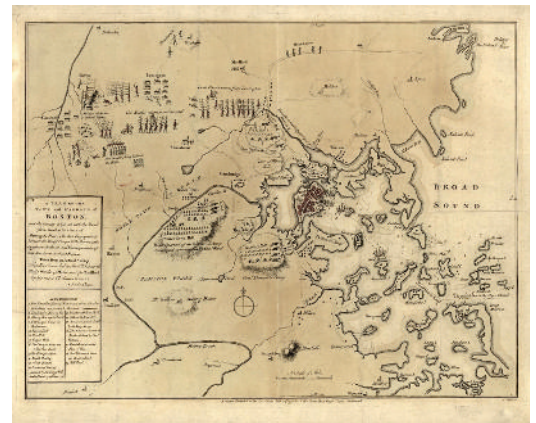
## Primary Sources:



**Paul Revere  
Letter**



**Minuteman National  
Park**



**Battle Map**

## Explore further:

To explore a timeline of the American Revolution, [click here](#).

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S  
**MOUNT ★ VERNON**

THE MOUNT VERNON LADIES' ASSOCIATION

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Have you ever heard the phrase "the shot heard round the world?" This is a famous phrase that has been used to describe the beginning of the American Revolution at the Battles of Lexington and Concord. However, it wasn't written until sixty years after the American Revolution started.

Famous poet Ralph Waldo Emerson coined that phrase in his poem the Concord Hymn which was written to dedicate the Concord Battle Monument. Poetry is a common artistic outlet to remember historical events.



## Directions:

1. Read Emerson's poem aloud
2. Circle rhyming words
3. Highlight and define any words you do not know
4. Using the space below, write your own poem about a historic event or an important event in your life

## Concord Hymn by Ralph Waldo Emerson

By the rude bridge that arched the flood,  
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,  
Here once the embattled farmers stood  
And fired the shot heard round the world.

The foe long since in silence slept;  
Alike the conqueror silent sleeps;  
And Time the ruined bridge has swept  
Down the dark stream which seaward creeps.

On this green bank, by this soft stream,  
We set today a votive stone;  
That memory may their deed redeem,  
When, like our sires, our sons are gone.

Spirit, that made those heroes dare  
To die, and leave their children free,  
Bid Time and Nature gently spare  
The shaft we raise to them and thee.

***Sung at the Completion of the Battle  
Monument, July 4, 1837***