

America's Black Founders

Revolutionary Heroes & Early Leaders

(For Kids series)

Evaluation Questions for Students

These chapter-by-chapter questions are useful as discussion starters and journal prompts. Use them also as a preparation guide to reading *America's Black Founders* as well as a way to check student's comprehension of key concepts.

Chapter 1: Colonial Days

- List examples of how kingdoms in Africa flourished as wealthy and influential powers during the Middle Ages.
- What roles did Africans participate in during the exploration and initial settlement of the Americas?
- Compare and contrast the lives of African Americans who were enslaved with those who were free during the founding years of our nation.

Chapter 2: Years of Unrest

- How did Richard Allen's personal struggle for freedom parallel the colonists' struggle for freedom from England?
- What does Chrispus Attucks' death as the first martyr of the American Revolution demonstrate to us today?
- How did Phillis Wheatley influence her generation even though during that era in history women had few rights and slaves had even fewer, if any at all?

Chapter 3: Beginnings of War

- Who were Peter Bestes, Sambo Freeman, Felix Holbrook, and Chester Joie, and how did they risk their lives?
- Why was it an important moment in history when Prince Hall formed the first Masonic lodge for African Americans?
- Describe some of the ways African American colonists distinguished themselves in the early days of war.

Chapter 4: The American Revolution

- What do you think James Forten and other colonists felt when they heard the Declaration of Independence read aloud for the very first time?
- What qualities might a soldier have demonstrated during the American Revolution to earn a Badge of Merit and receive an honorable discharge such as Oliver Cromwell did?
- What do you think were some of the reasons that motivated over 5,000 African Americans, both enslaved and free, to serve in the Continental Army?

Chapter 5: African Americans as Citizens

- How does it inspire you to stand up for what is right by learning how Richard Allen, Absalom Jones, and their friends walked out of St. George's Church as a protest for their rights?
- What did the formation of the Free African Society announce to the world?
- Describe some of America's Black Founders who built churches in various communities.

Chapter 6: African Americans Lead the Way

- How did petitions give African Americans a powerful voice in government meetings whose doors were closed to their attendance?
- Who were some of the early women leaders in America and what did they do?
- Describe several important ways African American leaders influenced the newly forming nation of America.