After the American Revolution, our founding fathers wrote the U.S. Constitution and Americans chose their first presidents. Our biography is patriot Abigail Adams, wife of the first vice president and second president. Our landmark in Unit 7 is historic Philadelphia. We learn about God's Wonder, the Appalachian Mountains, and the trappers, longhunters, and pioneers who settled beyond them.
Thirteen colonies on the coast of North America had defeated the world’s most powerful nation, Great Britain. They had independence, but could they keep it? No longer colonies, they were now states. The government that the thirteen states had agreed to under the Articles of Confederation was weak. It could not handle the problems of the new nation.

At the end of the Revolutionary War, America was in debt. The new nation had problems in “the West.” In the Treaty of Paris, Great Britain agreed that the area between Canada to the north, the Mississippi River to the west, and Florida to the south belonged to the United States. Florida was still Spanish territory. More Americans wanted to move to the West. Native people resented this and attacked them. Settlers wanted the American government to protect them.

**Northwest Ordinance of 1787**

A major accomplishment of the Confederation Congress during the first few years after the American Revolution was the Northwest Ordinance. The ordinance stated rules for the area west of Pennsylvania, north of the Ohio River, and east of the Mississippi River. As seen on the 1937 U.S. stamp above, the Confederation Congress called this area the Northwest Territory. The ordinance described how areas in the Northwest Territory could become states. It declared that new states would be completely equal with the original thirteen.
The Northwest Ordinance stated that all citizens in the Northwest Territory would have religious freedom, that native tribes would be treated fairly, and that slavery would be illegal there. Congress also passed a law that allowed the federal government to sell land in the Northwest Territory. Selling land would give America much-needed money.

The stamp honors Manassah Cutler and Rufus Putnam. Cutler helped to convince the Confederation Congress to pass the Northwest Ordinance. Both were veterans of the American Revolution who helped veterans and other Americans to settle in the Northwest Territory.

**Constitutional Convention of 1787**

Several state legislatures expressed a desire to make the Articles of Confederation more effective. In May 1787, 55 delegates from all the states except Rhode Island began meeting in the assembly room of the Pennsylvania State House in Philadelphia. They met in the same room where delegates to the Continental Congress had signed the Declaration of Independence eleven years before. See assembly room on page 286.

A majority of the delegates decided that mere changes were not enough. They decided to write a completely new constitution. George Washington agreed to serve as the president of the Constitutional Convention. Afraid that rumors about what they were doing would cause citizens to worry, the delegates kept everything secret. They even kept the windows closed throughout the hot summer. Benjamin Franklin asked that preachers come to the meetings and offer a prayer each morning.

Delegates decided to create a stronger central government that could take action when the United States needed to take action, while still protecting the rights of states and citizens. They decided to have three branches of government: a legislative branch that would make laws; an executive branch headed by a president to carry out the laws; and a judicial branch to apply the laws through a system of courts.

In this mural in the United States Capitol, artist Allyn Cox painted Alexander Hamilton, James Wilson, James Madison, and Benjamin Franklin gathered in Franklin’s garden during the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.
Delegates to the Constitutional Convention wrestled with three main problems:

**The Legislature.** Large states wanted the number of representatives in Congress to be based on population. Smaller states thought that was unfair. The delegates compromised and created two houses in Congress: the Senate and the House of Representatives. Each state would have two senators. The number of representatives each state would have in the House would be based on the number of people living in the state.

**The President.** Some delegates wanted the legislature to select the president. Others wanted citizens to vote for him. They compromised by creating the electoral college. Each state could decide how it wanted to select electors for the electoral college. The electoral college would then choose the president.

**Slavery.** Delegates to the Constitutional Convention from northern states questioned whether slavery was right. Delegates from southern states defended slavery. The delegates compromised. They decided to allow slavery to continue. They decided that people could continue to bring enslaved persons into the country, but only until 1808.

Northern and southern delegates disagreed about how to count enslaved people when deciding how many representatives a state could have in the House of Representatives. They decided to count all of the free people in a state but only three-fifths of a state’s slaves. They also decided that when states had to pay taxes to the federal government, they would count the state’s population that same way.

James Madison, John Witherspoon’s former pupil from Princeton, was a young, five-foot-tall delegate from Virginia. He came to the convention with strong ideas. He provided good leadership. Madison kept the only written record of the convention. Each day he took shorthand notes and transcribed them at night. He decided not to allow his notes to be published until the last delegate died. As it turned out, the last one to die was Madison himself. James Madison has become known as the “Father of the Constitution.”

Of the 55 delegates who took part in the Constitutional Convention, 39 signed the Constitution. Signers included these men whom we have already learned about in *America the Beautiful*: George Washington, Rufus King, Alexander Hamilton, Benjamin Franklin, and James Madison.
The delegates agreed that the Constitution would go into effect when nine states ratified it. Delaware was the first state to ratify the Constitution. It went into effect on June 21, 1788, when New Hampshire became the ninth state to ratify it. Virginia ratified the Constitution three days later and New York ratified it in July.

**America’s First Congress, President, and Supreme Court**

The electors in the first electoral college each cast two votes to select a president. Each elector cast one of their votes for George Washington. John Adams received the second highest number. Washington became the first President and Adams the first vice president. Electors from only 11 states chose these men because North Carolina and Rhode Island had not yet ratified the Constitution.

Sixty-five congressmen and 22 senators served in the first U.S. Congress. They met for the first time at Federal Hall in New York City on March 4, 1789. New York City served as the first capital of the United States.

Washington took the oath of office on April 30, 1789, at Federal Hall. At the end of the oath, he added the words “so help me God.” Every president since then has added the same words. Washington did not want people to give him a fancy title like “Your Highness.” Instead he wanted to be called simply “Mr. President.” We still address the president as Mr. President. President Washington was aware that future presidents would repeat some of the things he did. In other words, he knew that he was setting precedents.
Martha Washington was America’s first First Lady. She and two of her grandchildren joined her husband in New York. The Washingtons lived in rented houses while they were in New York City. Mrs. Washington was a gracious hostess who gave elaborate parties. She also welcomed veterans of the American Revolution who stopped by their home almost every day.

Washington appointed John Jay as the first chief justice of the Supreme Court. The first Congress created Departments of State, War, and the Treasury to help President Washington. Washington appointed heads for each of those departments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chief Justice of the Supreme Court</th>
<th>Secretary of State</th>
<th>Secretary of War</th>
<th>Secretary of the Treasury</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Jay</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson</td>
<td>Henry Knox</td>
<td>Alexander Hamilton</td>
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<td>by John Trumbull</td>
<td>by Mather Brown</td>
<td>by Charles Peale Polk, copied after Charles Willson Peale</td>
<td>by John Trumbull, copied after Giuseppe Ceracchi</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Many Americans were concerned about the rights of individual citizens. The first Congress passed twelve amendments to the Constitution. These guaranteed certain freedoms and limited the power of the national government. States voted on the amendments individually. Ten of the amendments passed. These first ten amendments to the Constitution became known as the Bill of Rights. The Bill of Rights guarantees freedoms that Americans cherish, including freedom of the press, freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and freedom to bear arms. They also guarantee that any power not specifically stated as a federal power is left to the states.
The Capital Moves to Philadelphia

While the capital was still in New York City, the North Carolina and Rhode Island legislatures ratified the Constitution and became the twelfth and thirteenth states. In December 1790, the capital moved to Philadelphia. Congress met in Congress Hall. President Washington rented a house which served as both home and office.

In 1790 Congress passed an act to create a permanent U.S. capital along the border of Maryland and Virginia. Both states gave land for an area called the District of Columbia (D.C.). President Washington appointed Major Pierre Charles L’Enfant to plan a new capital city to be built within the District of Columbia. At first the name of the capital city was Federal City, then later Washington City, and finally Washington.

When Washington completed his first term as president, he longed to go home to Mount Vernon. However, when the electoral college again elected him by a unanimous vote, he agreed to serve. Again Adams received the second highest number. Washington was inaugurated for his second term in the Senate Chamber of Congress Hall on March 4, 1793.

On September 18 of that year, President Washington laid the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol building. From there two brass bands and volunteer soldiers accompanied him in a procession to the planned site of the president’s house. The president returned to Washington from time to time to see how the project was progressing.

The First Thirteen States Ratify the Constitution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1787</td>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>December 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1787</td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>December 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>1787</td>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>December 18</td>
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<td>1788</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>January 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1788</td>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>January 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1788</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>February 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1788</td>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>April 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1788</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>May 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1788</td>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>June 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>1788</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>June 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>1788</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>July 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1789</td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>November 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1790</td>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>May 29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Since 1777, residents of eastern New York had wanted to be independent. At first they called their area New Connecticut and later Vermont. New York gave up its claim to the area and, in 1791, Vermont joined the U.S. as the fourteenth state. Kentucky followed in 1792, and Tennessee in 1796.

By 1796 the United States had 16 states. It had its first president and first vice president. The U.S. Congress was making laws. The Supreme Court was hearing cases and making decisions. U.S. leaders were figuring out how to operate as a new country and most Americans were following this teaching of Scripture:

*Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.*

_Romans 13:1_

**Activities for Lesson 31**

**Presidential Biography** – Read the biography of George Washington on page 293.

**We the People** – Read the “Preamble to the Constitution” on page 29.

**Map Study** – Complete the assignments for Lesson 31 on Map 7 “The Thirteen Colonies” and on Map 20 “The Lower 48” in *Maps of America the Beautiful*.

**Timeline** – In *Timeline of America the Beautiful* next to 1793, write: George Washington lays the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol building.

**Student Workbook or Lesson Review** – If you are using one of these optional books, complete the assignment for Lesson 31.

**Literature** – Read the chapter titled “The Arrival at Jaffrey” in *Amos Fortune: Free Man*.

Page 293: In 1795 Gilbert Stuart painted this portrait of George Washington.
On February 22, 1732, a son was born to Augustine and Mary Ball Washington at Wakefield Farm in Virginia. Augustine had two older sons, Lawrence and Augustine, from his first marriage. The Washingtons named Mary’s first son George. The family Bible shows no middle name. Augustine and Mary had three more boys and two girls.

George was homeschooled. He studied arithmetic, astronomy, geography, spelling, and surveying. His mother Mary Washington lived to be 82 years old, but Augustine died when George was only 11. George’s older half-brother Lawrence guided George as he grew up. Lawrence lived in a small house his father had built on a plantation beside the Potomac River. The property had been in the Washington family since 1674. Lawrence named this farm Mount Vernon.

When George was 16, he went on a surveying trip with a friend of Lawrence’s. Before he left, George practiced by surveying Lawrence’s turnip field. On this trip George traveled on horseback and slept in the open. In his journal, he wrote about meals and conversations with native people. He wrote about watching their dances in the firelight.

George grew to be about six feet tall. He became an excellent horseman. Thomas Jefferson said that he was “the most graceful figure that could be seen on horseback.”

Lawrence died when George was 20 years old. George leased Mount Vernon from Lawrence’s widow. He made improvements and added land until the plantation had 8,000 acres. He enjoyed his life as a gentleman farmer and began to transform the small house into a mansion.

In 1759 George married a young widow, Martha Dandridge Custis. She had two children: John (Jacky) and Martha (Patsy), who also came to live at Mount Vernon. When Lawrence’s widow died two years later, George inherited Mount Vernon. Patsy died in 1773. Jacky served in the Continental Army. He died at Yorktown of camp fever. Jacky left four children. His widow sent their two youngest children, Eleanor (Nelly) Parke Custis, age two and a half, and George Washington Parke Custis, age six months, to live with George and Martha.

Washington served Virginia in the House of Burgesses. He served his country in the French and Indian War, the Continental Congress, the American Revolution, and as the first president. He went home to Mount Vernon after two terms as president. He died there in December 1799. General Henry “Lighthorse Harry” Lee said that Washington was “first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen.”

Mount Vernon
Elizabeth Quincy Smith, wife of minister William Smith, gave birth to a baby girl on November 11, 1744. They named her Abigail. When Abigail was born, she had a two-year-old sister, Mary. Her family would later welcome a son, William, and another daughter, Elizabeth.

William Smith was the pastor of the North Parish Congregational Church in Weymouth, Massachusetts. Abigail’s father and mother taught her to help others. Elizabeth took Abigail with her during her many visits to the sick. Together they took food, clothes, and firewood to poor families.

Abigail’s mother taught her at home, and she read many books from her father’s library. She often visited her mother’s parents, Colonel and Mrs. John Quincy. On those visits, she read from his library. Colonel Quincy was well respected. He served in the militia and in the colonial legislature of Massachusetts. He and the guests who came to his home taught Abigail about the importance of freedom for American colonists.

**Marriage to John Adams**

John Adams, a young lawyer from Braintree, Massachusetts, became a frequent guest at the Smith home. The two came to care for one another. In his diary, John described Abigail in these words:

Tender feeling, sensible, friendly. A friend. Not an imprudent, not an indelicate, not a disagreeable Word or Action. Prudent, modest, delicate, soft, sensible, obliging, active.
When the couple couldn’t be together, they wrote letters to each other. By the end of their lives, they would write over 1,100 to one another.

On October 25, 1764, Parson Smith performed the wedding of his daughter Abigail and John Adams at the family home in Weymouth. The couple moved to Braintree, about five miles away, into the farmhouse next door to the house where John was born. The farmhouse was a gift from John’s father. See a painting of these two homes on page 270 and modern photos at right.

Abigail became a good manager of their home. Their first child was born in the summer of 1765. They named her Abigail Amelia and called her Nabby. Two years later, they welcomed a son, John Quincy. Both were born in the farmhouse in Braintree.

The Family Moves to Boston

While still living in Braintree, John began to travel in his work as a lawyer. Again he and Abigail wrote letters. In 1768 they moved their family into a rented house in Boston while John continued to practice law. In Boston they enjoyed social gatherings with Patriots such as John’s cousin Samuel Adams (see pages 196-199) and his friend John Hancock. Find Hancock’s signature on the Declaration of Independence on page 280.

Abigail gave birth to a second daughter in 1768. They named her Susanna after John’s mother. She was a delight to her parents. John and Abigail were heartbroken when she died at the age of one.

John Adams made a controversial decision in 1770 when he served as the attorney for the British soldiers who were involved in the Boston Massacre. Many criticized John for this, but Abigail supported him. That same year John and Abigail welcomed a second son, Charles.

In 1771 the Adamses moved back to the farmhouse in Braintree. Their third son Thomas was born there. The Adams moved back to Boston for a while, but after the Boston Tea Party and other protests, they decided it was safer to live in Braintree.
Sacrifices for Their Country

In 1774 John became a delegate to the First Continental Congress. Abigail and the children remained at home, while he was in Philadelphia. Abigail homeschooled their children and ran the farm. Again the couple wrote letters. John Adams respected his wife’s great intellect and character. He wrote to her about what was happening in Philadelphia. She wrote to him about the family, about the farm, and about her opinions. Abigail strongly supported the idea that the 13 colonies should become independent of Great Britain.

John also served in the Second Continental Congress, which began in May 1775. Abigail wrote to him about the conflicts between Americans and the British in nearby Boston. During the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775, Abigail took John Quincy to the top of a hill near their home. Together they watched the battle.

John Adams was appointed to the committee to write the Declaration of Independence. Find his signature on page 280. Abigail wrote to John that she believed the slaves should also be free. She encouraged him to “remember the ladies.” However, the Continental Congress did not decide to take a stand against slavery or in favor of more rights for women.

John Adams respected his wife’s judgment and missed being with her. He wrote: “I want a better communication. I want to hear you think and see your thoughts.” John and Abigail were deeply in love. Though they both loved their country and were willing to make sacrifices for it, being apart was painful. John once wrote, “The conclusion of your letter makes my heart throb.” Adams complimented Abigail for her reputation as a farmer, and he wrote: “It gives me concern to think of the many cares you must have upon your mind.”

John was in Philadelphia in 1776 when Abigail’s mother died and in 1777 when Abigail gave birth to a stillborn daughter, whom she named Elizabeth. Elizabeth was born on John Quincy’s birthday. This was one of the hardest times of Abigail’s life.

While John served as president of the Board of War during the American Revolution, Abigail made bullets, dealt with shortages caused by the war, and provided shelter for soldiers and war refugees.

This bullet mold is possibly the one that Abigail Adams used.
**Separated By an Ocean**

The Continental Congress selected John Adams to join Benjamin Franklin as a diplomat in France. Abigail encouraged her husband to take John Quincy with him. John and John Quincy sailed to France in February 1779. This time John and Abigail sent letters across the Atlantic Ocean.

John and John Quincy returned to Boston in the summer of 1779. In November John returned to Europe as a diplomat. He took both John Quincy and Charles with him. The boys studied for a time at a school in the Netherlands, but Charles became homesick and returned to Braintree.

**Reunited in England**

John and Abigail’s daughter Nabby was 12 years old when her father left for France the first time. Nabby and Abigail were constant companions while her father was away from home.

John was still in Europe when Cornwallis surrendered to Continental forces at Yorktown in 1781. He remained there and helped to negotiate the Treaty of Paris. The Confederation Congress asked John to stay and work on agreements with European and North African countries. In 1784 Abigail and Nabby sailed to London to join him. Nabby was then 18. John and John Quincy met Abigail and Nabby in London. Soon they all moved to Paris. Thomas Jefferson was also serving as an American diplomat in Paris. The Adamses became close friends with Jefferson and his daughter.
In 1785 Congress appointed John as the American ambassador to Great Britain. After moving to London, both John and Abigail wrote letters to Thomas Jefferson, and he wrote to each of them individually. Jefferson shopped for Abigail in Paris and she shopped for him in London. Jefferson visited the Adamses there. He once wrote to James Madison that Abigail was “one of the most estimable characters on earth.”

While the Adamses were in London, Nabby married Revolutionary War veteran Colonel William Smith. In 1788 the young couple returned to America and settled in New York.

John and Abigail came home in 1788. They moved into the “Old House” at Peacefield, a large farm one mile from the farmhouse in Braintree. They had arranged for a relative to purchase the farm for them while they were still in England. See painting on page 294. John said this time he was going back to Braintree to stay.

**John Adams Becomes the First Vice President**

John and Abigail’s stay in Braintree was short. John was elected vice president of the United States in 1789. Abigail became friends with Martha Washington. The skills Abigail had learned as a diplomat’s wife and hostess made her an excellent advisor to Mrs. Washington. Abigail was often with her husband during his two terms as vice president, but poor health kept her in Braintree for long periods. In 1792 the portion of Braintree where they lived separated from the rest of Braintree and that new town was named Quincy for Abigail’s mother’s family.
John Adams Becomes America’s Second President

After President Washington decided not to run for a third term, John Adams was elected America’s second president. He was inaugurated in the House of Representatives chamber at Congress Hall in Philadelphia in 1797. See photo on page 304. Adams rented the same house that Washington had rented. Here Abigail served as a hospitable First Lady. She continued to be her husband’s close advisor. During one period when Abigail was in Quincy recovering from an illness, John wrote to her: “I never wanted your advice and assistance more in my life.”

On November 1, 1800, President Adams moved into the unfinished President’s House in Washington, D.C. On his second night there, he wrote to Abigail:

Before I end my Letter I pray Heaven to bestow the best of Blessings on this House and all that shall hereafter inhabit it. May none but honest and wise Men ever rule under this roof.

Abigail soon joined her husband. She worked to furnish the President’s House and prepare it to entertain guests. That November, the Senate, the House of Representatives, the Supreme Court, and the Library of Congress all moved into one wing of the U.S. Capitol. Even that wing was not quite finished. Congress met there for the first time on November 17. President and Mrs. Adams hosted a New Year’s Day reception at the President’s House on January 1, 1801.
Though Adams ran for a second term as president, Thomas Jefferson won the election of 1800. In March 1801, John and Abigail retired to Quincy. Abigail enjoyed visits from her children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. She enjoyed homemaking and making improvements to Peacefield. She also watched with pride as her son John Quincy served as a U.S. Senator, a diplomat to Russia, and Secretary of State. However, each of their other children had difficult lives. Charles died of alcoholism at age 30 while John and Abigail were living in the President’s House. Nabby died of cancer at age 48. Only John Quincy and Thomas lived longer than their parents.

After 17 years of retirement with her beloved John, Abigail became ill with typhoid fever in 1818. She died surrounded by her husband and family members on October 18. She was 73 years old. She and John had been married for 54 years.

An excellent wife, who can find?
For her worth is far above jewels.
The heart of her husband trusts in her,
And he will have no lack of gain.
Proverbs 31:10-11

Activities for Lesson 32

Presidential Biography – Read the biography of John Adams on page 301.

We the People – Read the “Letter to Abigail Adams” on page 30.

Timeline – In Timeline of America the Beautiful next to 1800, write: John Adams is the first President to live in the White House.

Student Workbook or Lesson Review – If you are using one of these optional books, complete the assignment for Lesson 32.

Thinking Biblically – Read Paul’s instructions about submitting to the government in Romans 13:1-7.

Literature – Read the chapter titled “The Middle Passage” in Amos Fortune: Free Man.

Page 301: John Trumbull painted this portrait of Adams while Adams was serving as vice president.
John and Susanna Boylston Adams welcomed their firstborn son, John, on October 19, 1735. Susanna taught John to read and write. Later he attended schools in Braintree. After his graduation from Harvard, he taught school briefly and then decided to become a lawyer. His parents set aside a space in their home for John to set up a law office.

When John decided to marry Abigail Smith, he improved the home his father had given him as well as the farmland he inherited after his father died in 1761. When John finished the improvements, he and Abigail were married.

John was one of America’s Founding Fathers. He proposed that George Washington be commander-in-chief of the Continental Army. As president of the Board of War, he performed the duties of a national Secretary of War. Adams worked to convince delegates of the Continental Congress to vote for independence. He proposed the design for the American flag.

Adams traveled to Europe twice to serve the United States as an effective diplomat. On the first voyage, he helped the crew capture a British ship. On the second voyage, the ship leaked and the captain had to land in Spain. Adams set out on foot to lead a group of Americans, including his young sons, on a 1,000-mile winter journey to France. In 1783 Adams was one of the signers of the Treaty of Paris, along with Benjamin Franklin and John Jay. Finally in 1784, Abigail was able to join her husband in Europe. After Adams’ service as ambassador to Great Britain, he and Abigail returned home.

John Adams served two four-year terms as America’s first vice president. President Washington strongly opposed political parties. However, by the end of Washington’s second term, the United States had two political parties: Federalists, who believed in a strong central government, and Republicans, who did not. The electoral college selected Federalist John Adams as the second president and Republican Thomas Jefferson as his vice president.

Adams’ presidency was a difficult time in America. The country almost went to war with France, but Adams provided good leadership. He built up the U.S. Navy and used diplomacy to end the conflict. Adams wanted to be re-elected as president, but he lost to Thomas Jefferson. Adams retired to Peacefield. After Abigail’s death, their remaining children and grandchildren stayed close to Adams and gave him great comfort for the rest of his life. On July 4, 1826, an Independence Day parade passed by Adams’ bedroom. He died later that day at age 91. His son John Quincy was serving as the 6th president. The day was the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.
Nicknames for historic Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, are the Birthplace of the Nation and the City of Brotherly Love. As we learned in Lesson 17, William Penn founded Philadelphia as the capital of the Pennsylvania colony. Penn chose the name because it means “brotherly love.” Because Philadelphia is in many ways The Birthplace of the Nation, it is home to many of America’s most treasured symbols.

At the center of the original plan for Philadelphia is Center Square, now called Penn Square. Penn Square is the central square that William Penn laid out when he designed Philadelphia. Penn’s statue sits above City Hall in Penn Square. Nearby are the Old City and Society Hill neighborhoods.

The first Pennsylvania Quakers settled in Old City. Society Hill has more homes built in the 1700s and early 1800s than any neighborhood in America. Row houses line Society Hill’s cobblestone streets. The 1787 print at left shows row houses on Lombard Street, the southern border of Society Hill.

*In this detail from The Accident in Lombard Street by Charles Willson Peale, chimney sweeps stand by a girl who has dropped her pie.*
Independence Hall

Construction began on the State House of the Province of Pennsylvania in 1732. Scottish immigrant Andrew Hamilton came to Philadelphia in 1700. He became a lawyer and an architect. Hamilton chose the site and designed the state house.

The Assembly of the colony of Pennsylvania invited the Continental Congress to meet in the state house. See photo of the Assembly Room on page 286. The desk where members of the Second Continental Congress gathered to sign the Declaration of Independence in 1776 is here. Americans now call the building Independence Hall. See photo on page 302.

Members of the Constitutional Convention wrote the United States Constitution in this room in 1787. Here delegates signed that document which continues to be the supreme law of our American government. The “Rising Sun Chair” where George Washington sat while he presided over the Constitutional Convention is here. Benjamin Franklin said that during the convention, he wondered if the sun carved on the chair’s back was a rising sun or a setting sun. When the delegates completed the Constitution, he said he believed it was a rising sun.

The Liberty Bell

As mentioned on page 145, the history of the Liberty Bell began in 1751 when the Pennsylvania assembly ordered a bell from England to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of William Penn’s Charter of Privileges. The bell was defective. A local Philadelphia business, Pass and Stowe, melted and recast the bell twice before workers were finally able to hang it in the tower of the Philadelphia State House in 1753. The bronze bell weighs over 2,000 pounds. The distance around its lip is twelve feet. Its peal is an E-flat.
Four days after delegates at the Second Continental Congress voted to approve the Declaration of Independence, citizens of Philadelphia gathered outside Independence Hall to hear Colonel John Nixon read the Declaration publicly for the first time. Nixon was a local businessman who later fought with Washington at the Battles of Trenton and Princeton. Bells rang into the night to celebrate. According to tradition, the Liberty Bell rang that day. When the British captured Philadelphia in 1777, Patriots hid the Liberty Bell in nearby Allentown. Philadelphians hid this and other bells so that the British would not melt them down to make ammunition. Patriots brought the Liberty Bell back to the Independence Hall tower in 1778.

Other Sites in Independence Historical Park

Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell are the main attractions in Independence National Historical Park. Other historic sites in the park include:

Carpenter's Hall — In 1724 Philadelphia carpenters founded a guild to help each other develop skills in architecture and to help one another’s families when they were in need. They built Carpenter’s Hall in 1770. The First Continental Congress met here in 1774. Carpenter’s Hall was a hospital and an arsenal during the American Revolution.

Christ Church — Christ Church was built between 1727 and 1754. It is a beautiful example of colonial craftsmanship. See the picture at left.

Congress Hall — Congress Hall was originally the Philadelphia County Court House. See photo on page 291. Constructed between 1787 and 1789, Congress Hall was brand new when the United States Congress met there from 1790 to 1800. George Washington was inaugurated for his second term as president here. John Adams was also inaugurated here. It was here that Congress adopted the Bill of Rights. The House of Representatives met on the lower floor and the Senate met on the upper floor. Though Congress moved to the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. in 1800, Americans still call the House of Representatives the “Lower House” and the Senate the “Upper House.”
First Bank of the United States — The First Bank of the United States is the oldest bank building in America. Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton urged Congress to establish the bank. It issued paper money and collected federal taxes. The bank began in Carpenter’s Hall. Construction on this building was completed in 1797. See artwork above.

Second Bank of the United States — The Second Bank of the United States (built 1819-1824) is now a gallery of portraits from the Colonial and Revolutionary periods and from the early years of the United States. Most portraits are by Charles Willson Peale, who settled in Philadelphia in 1775 and fought in the American Revolution. He painted many military portraits, including 14 of George Washington. James and Ellen Sharples immigrated to America from Great Britain in the late 1700s. James painted portraits. People paid his wife Ellen to copy them. The Second Bank also houses portraits by the Sharples.

Franklin Court — A monument to Benjamin Franklin now stands on the site of his home. A museum is below it.
Free Quaker Meeting House — Free Quakers, sometimes called “Fighting Quakers,” laid aside pacifism and supported the fight for independence. Among them was Betsy Ross.

Old City Hall — Old City Hall opened in 1791. Philadelphia allowed the U.S. Supreme Court to meet here from 1791 to 1800. The court made its first decisions here.

Betsy Ross House

Near Independence National Historical Park is the home Betsy Ross rented from 1773 to 1786. John and Betsy Ross ran their upholstery business here. General Washington visited Betsy Ross here to discuss her sewing the Stars and Stripes.

American Philosophical Society Library

The library of the American Philosophical Society is near Independence Hall. Benjamin Franklin founded the society in 1743. Its purpose is to promote scientific knowledge and technology. Science and technology were once called natural philosophy. The Society’s historic meeting place and library was constructed in 1789 with generous donations from Franklin and others. The society’s library has more than seven million manuscripts, including an original manuscript of William Penn’s 1701 Charter of Privileges. The Society’s collection also includes an armchair that Thomas Jefferson used while writing the Declaration of Independence.
America’s First Hospital

Around 1750, Dr. Thomas Bond of Philadelphia had the idea of starting a hospital to care for sick people who were poor. He asked his good friend Benjamin Franklin to help him. In 1751 Franklin and Bond received a charter from the Pennsylvania Assembly to establish Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia. It was the first hospital in America. For the hospital’s seal, they chose an image of the Good Samaritan and the words, “Take care of him and I will repay thee.”

The hospital was in a home at first. The hospital served its first patient in 1752. In 1754 descendants of the Penn family sold land for a new building. The cornerstone was laid for a new building on May 28, 1755. Franklin wrote the inscription on the cornerstone. Here it is with original spelling:

In the year of Christ MDCCLV. George the second happily reigning (for he sought the happiness of his people) Philadelphia flourishing (for its inhabitants were publick spirited) this building by the bounty of the government, and of many private persons, was piously founded for the relief of the sick and miserable; may the God of mercies bless this undertaking.

Medical staff began treating patients in the new hospital in 1756. From 1768 to 1772, John Nixon, reader of the Declaration of Independence, served as the hospital manager. In 1767 descendants of William Penn donated land for an expansion. During the American Revolution, doctors treated both Continental and British soldiers. A second wing was completed in 1796 and a third in 1804. Dr. Benjamin Rush, who encouraged John Witherspoon to come to Princeton, was on the staff of Pennsylvania Hospital from 1783 to 1813.
In the early 1800s, abolitionists used the Liberty Bell as a symbol of the need to end slavery in America. That is when people began to call it the Liberty Bell. The bell rang every Fourth of July and on other national occasions until 1835. According to tradition, the bell cracked while it rang to honor the death of John Marshall, the fourth chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Betsy Ross Memorial Association acquired her home in the late 1800s. Beginning in 1898, two million Americans donated dimes so that the house could be made into a memorial.

The American Philosophical Society still meets today. Over a dozen U.S. Presidents and more than two hundred Nobel prize winners have been members.

Americans and visitors from around the world can visit America’s symbols of liberty. Jesus offers real liberty to all the people of the world.

**Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him,**

**“If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”**

*John 8:31-32*

**Activities for Lesson 33**

**We the People** – Read “O Sing a Song of Bethlehem” on page 33.

**Map Study** – Complete the assignment for Lesson 33 on Map 3 “American Landmarks” in *Maps of America the Beautiful*.

**Timeline** – In *Timeline of America the Beautiful* next to 1753, write: The Liberty Bell is hung in the tower of the Philadelphia State House (now Independence Hall).

**Student Workbook or Lesson Review** – If you are using one of these optional books, complete the assignment for Lesson 33.

**Vocabulary** – Look up each of these words in a dictionary: architecture, cobblestone, gallery, peal, publicly. Copy each word and its definition in your notebook.

**Literature** – Read the chapter titled “Amos on the Mountain” in *Amos Fortune: Free Man*.

**Family Activity** – Create a Liberty Bell Mosaic. See the instructions on the next page.
Supplies

- 1 piece white poster board
- 2 sheets each, red, white, and blue construction paper
- liquid glue or glue stick
- scissors
- black marker
- pencil
- ruler

Instructions

1. Look at the illustration at right to see the shape of the Liberty Bell. Using one of the shorter edges of the poster board as the bottom, draw a bell shape with a pencil on the poster board. Cut out the bell.

2. Tear each piece of construction paper into small pieces of various sizes and shapes. No piece should be larger than a postage stamp.

3. With a black marker, write “LIBERTY” in large letters all the way across near the top of your bell. Draw a horizontal line below the word as pictured above.

4. From the top of the bell to the line you drew, glue pieces of torn blue paper around the word “LIBERTY.” (Spread glue on a small section of the poster board, attach pieces of construction paper, then repeat on another section.)

5. Glue thirteen pieces of torn white paper on top of the blue along the top of the bell. These represent the first 13 states.

6. With a pencil and ruler, mark up-and-down lines about two inches apart down the rest of the bell.

7. Make alternating red and white stripes on the bottom of the bell with the torn paper, as you did with the blue paper.

8. Cut a small rectangle out of a scrap piece of the poster board about the size of an index card. Write on it neatly: “Proclaim liberty throughout the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof. Leviticus 25:10” Glue it in the center bottom of your bell.
God created the beautiful Appalachian Mountains. They begin in Canada and continue southward 2,000 miles. They have three main divisions, the Northern, Central, and Southern Appalachians, each containing many smaller mountain ranges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Mountain</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
<th>Mountain Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>Mount Mitchell</td>
<td>6,684</td>
<td>Black Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>Clingman’s Dome</td>
<td>6,643</td>
<td>Great Smoky Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>Mount Washington</td>
<td>6,288</td>
<td>Presidential Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>Mount Rogers</td>
<td>5,729</td>
<td>Blue Ridge Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>Mount Katahdin</td>
<td>5,267</td>
<td>Maine Highlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>Brasstown Bald</td>
<td>4,862</td>
<td>Allegheny Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Mount Mansfield</td>
<td>4,393</td>
<td>Green Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>Slide Mountain</td>
<td>4,180</td>
<td>Catskill Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Big Black Mountain</td>
<td>4,145</td>
<td>Cumberland Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>Sassafras Mountain</td>
<td>3,360</td>
<td>Blue Ridge Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Mount Greylock</td>
<td>3,492</td>
<td>Taconic Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>Backbone Mountain</td>
<td>3,360</td>
<td>Allegheny Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Mount Davis</td>
<td>3,213</td>
<td>Allegheny Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>Mount Frissell</td>
<td>2,454</td>
<td>Taconic Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Mount Cheaha</td>
<td>2,413</td>
<td>Blue Ridge Mountains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>High Point</td>
<td>1,803</td>
<td>Kittatinny Mountains</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: This chart shows states that had not yet become states while Washington and Adams were in office. New York’s highest point is Mount Marcy, but Mount Marcy is in the Adirondack Mountains, which are not part of the Appalachians. The border between North and South Carolina crosses the peak of Sassafras Mountain.
The Northern Appalachians include the Maine Highlands, the White Mountains, and the Green Mountains. Residents of the Maine Highlands enjoy picking wild blueberries, raspberries, blackberries, and fern fiddleheads, a delicacy native people enjoyed before colonists came. The White Mountains include the Franconia Mountains and the Presidentials. The tallest mountain in the Presidentials is windy Mount Washington. Wind speed there has reached 231 miles per hour. Below 3,200 feet the mountain is forested, but from there to its peak, it is rocky and treeless. Adventurous settlers began climbing Mount Washington in the mid-1600s. God put slate, granite, and high-quality marble inside the Green Mountains. Sugar maples from the Green Mountains provide sap for Vermont’s famous maple syrup.

Collecting maple sap in Vermont
Southern. The Southern Appalachians are split into two branches: the Blue Ridge Mountains to the east and the Cumberland Plateau and Cumberland Mountains to the west. Members of the Cherokee nation made their home in the Southern Appalachians.

The Monacan people lived in the Blue Ridge Mountains when English settlers arrived at Jamestown. Mists on these forested peaks make them appear blue. The Blue Ridge Mountains include the Black and Unaka Mountain ranges. Mount Mitchell is the tallest peak in the Black Mountains. It is the highest point east of South Dakota’s Black Hills. The Great Smoky Mountains are part of the Unaka range. The lush vegetation in the Smokies produces a haze when it releases water vapor and natural oils. This makes the mountaintops look smoky.

Much of the Cumberland Plateau has thin soil. Coal lies under much of its limestone, sandstone, and slate surface. Cumberland Gap is a narrow mountain pass near the point where Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia come together in the Cumberland Mountains. Virginia physician and explorer Thomas Walker crossed the gap in 1750 and named it Cumberland Gap. One of the many trails native people used in the Appalachian Mountains went through Cumberland Gap. In 1775 longhunter and settler Daniel Boone led a crew who built the Wilderness Road through Cumberland Gap.

Central. The Allegheny, Berkshire, Catskill, Kittatinny, Pocono, and Taconic ranges, plus part of the Blue Ridge Mountains, make up the Central Appalachians. God placed rich coal deposits in the Alleghenies. Mohicans lived in the Berkshires when John Sergeant built a Mission House there in 1742 (page 155). The Dutch opened a copper mine in the Kittatinnny Mountains around 1640. In the early 1700s, Europeans met Lenapes in the Poconos. Taconic possibly derives from an Algonquian word meaning “in the woods.”
God Filled the Mountains with Life

The Appalachian Mountains receive abundant rainfall and snow. They are home to bogs, lakes, ponds, mountain streams, rivers, and waterfalls. Some places have low cloud cover. The wet environment makes the Appalachian forest one of Earth’s most diverse and complex. Two thousand plant species live there, including 140 species of trees. Even dead plants provide habitat for mosses and fungi.

Fall colors are beautiful. First, the red maple and sugar maple leaves turn red. Next, the birch and hickory leaves turn yellow. Finally, beech leaves turn golden bronze and oak leaves turn deep red or brown. The Appalachian forest bursts with color again in the spring with flowering trees, flowering shrubs, and wildflowers. Some southern Appalachian summits are open meadows. The top of Roan Mountain in the Unakas is a 1,200-acre natural garden.
The Appalachian ecosystem abounds with animal life from the large American black bear to the little bog turtle. Native insects and hummingbirds pollinate Appalachian blossoms. From north to south, the Appalachians teem with birds. Many live there year-round; others spend part of the year there. The black-throated green warbler, for example, migrates between the Appalachians and the tropical forests of Mexico.

The wet Appalachian environment is ideal for salamanders, including newts. More than 40 species of salamanders live there. Biologists believe more different species of salamanders live in the southern Appalachians than anywhere else on earth.
First States West of the Appalachians

The Northwest Ordinance described how the United States would allow territories north of the Ohio River to become states. However, the first states after the original 13 were Vermont, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Vermont had been part of New York, Kentucky part of Virginia, and Tennessee part of North Carolina. By 1791 North Carolina, New York, and Virginia had given up their claims to those lands. Each contains portions of the Appalachians.

Settlers living in these areas helped to win independence during the American Revolution. Ethan Allen led the Green Mountain Boys. George Rogers Clark led soldiers from Kentucky. Overmountain Men from Tennessee were victorious in the Battle of King’s Mountain. However, becoming new states was not a given. For a time, Vermont considered itself an independent country. At the time, Florida and the important port of New Orleans were still Spanish territory. Leaders in Kentucky and Tennessee considered becoming independent allies of Spain.

President Washington, the U.S. Congress, and citizens of Vermont and Kentucky worked through complicated politics. Kentucky wrote its state constitution ten times. In 1791 Congress admitted Vermont and Kentucky as the 14th and 15th states. In 1794 Congress voted to add two stars and two stripes to the U.S. flag. Congress did not approve another flag change until 1818.

Tennessee was the first of many states to come into the Union after first being an officially organized territory. When North Carolina gave its western lands to the United States government, Congress named the area the “Territory of the United States, South of the River Ohio,” or simply the “Southwest Territory.” See stamp on page 286. Washington appointed William Blount as territorial governor. In 1795 Tennessee delegates began the process of becoming a state by writing a state constitution. They applied to Congress to become the 16th state. On June 1, 1796, the U.S. Congress voted to make Tennessee the 16th state. The vote was close.
FAST FORWARD to the 1800s-2000s

Washington Irving wrote “Rip Van Winkle” in 1819. Its setting is the Catskill Mountains of New York.

From 1820-1900 a group of American artists, called the Hudson River School, painted the Hudson River and the Catskills.

Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote “The Great Stone Face” in 1850. It is about the “Old Man of the Mountain” rock formation on Profile Mountain. Profile Mountain is in the Franconia Mountains of New Hampshire. The formation fell off in 2003. Its image is on the New Hampshire state quarter.

In the years before the Civil War, five presidents vacationed in White Sulphur Springs in the Allegheny Mountains of West Virginia.

Twisting and turning for 2,158 miles through the mountain range is the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. Construction on the trail began in 1928. Hikers hike between the trailhead near Mount Katahdin in Maine to Mount Oglethorpe in Georgia or vice versa. The entire trail takes an adult about 5,000,000 steps!

In 1930 the National Park Service established Great Smoky Mountains National Park. It is the most visited national park in the United States.

While hiking on Mount Katahdin in 1939, 12-year-old Donn Fendler got separated from his father, brothers, and a friend. He was lost for nine days. Lost on a Mountain in Maine tells the story of his faith and God’s faithfulness during this ordeal.

Rock City is a tourist attraction atop Lookout Mountain near Chattanooga, Tennessee. Owners once advertised Rock City on 900 barns from Michigan to Texas. Lookout Mountain was the site of the Civil War Battle of Lookout Mountain, also called the Battle Above the Clouds.
God created the Appalachian Mountains and the streams that run through them. He cares for the creatures that live there, as Psalm 104 beautifully describes.

He sends forth springs in the valleys;  
They flow between the mountains;  
They give drink to every beast of the field.  
Psalm 104:10-11a

Activities for Lesson 34

Map Study – Complete the assignments for Lesson 34 on Map 2 “God’s Wonders” and Map 12 “Appalachian Mountains” in Maps of America the Beautiful.

Timeline – In Timeline of America the Beautiful next to 1928, write: Construction begins on the Appalachian Trail.

Student Workbook or Lesson Review – If you are using one of these optional books, complete the assignment for Lesson 34.

Thinking Biblically – Read these Bible verses about mountains: Joshua 11:16, 1 Samuel 25:20, Psalm 95:4, Matthew 14:23, and Mark 11:1. Choose one of them to copy in your notebook.

Creative Writing – In your notebook, make a list of supplies you would need if you were hiking the Appalachian Trail.

Vocabulary – In your notebook, copy each sentence below. Fill in each blank with the right word from this list: complex, delicacy, diverse, haze, process.

1. I peeked out the window in the early morning and saw a _________ over the river.
2. My 6th grade math book has more _________ problems than the one I had in 5th grade.
3. Fern fiddleheads are a _____________ native people enjoyed.
4. My brother thought that learning to drive would be quick and easy, but he has learned that it is a long ____________.
5. My garden is more ____________ since I planted 20 new kinds of flowers.

Before Europeans came to live on the lands that would become Kentucky and Tennessee, native settlements were few. However, the land was a rich hunting ground for native people. French traders came in the 1700s to trade for furs. Americans of English descent came from the east as longhunters, so called because they spent a long time hunting in the forests of Kentucky and Tennessee. When Virginian Thomas Walker led an expedition through Cumberland Gap in 1750, his men constructed the first cabin in Kentucky. On this trip, he first saw one of the south’s largest rivers. He named it the Cumberland River. See map on page 322.

**Daniel Boone, Longhunter**

While on a long hunt in the winter of 1760, Boone crossed the Blue Ridge Mountains. In the winter of 1767 and 1768, he went into the Cumberland region. The next year, he went through the Cumberland Gap. He continued following the native trail called Warrior’s Path. On June 7, 1769, he saw what is now Kentucky for the first time.

Six years later, in 1775, Daniel Boone led about thirty men through Cumberland Gap. They cut down trees to expand Warrior’s Path, turning it into the Wilderness Road. For the next fifty years, this road was the main route for people moving into Kentucky and Tennessee. Another name for the Wilderness Road was Boone’s Trace.
Workers completed the Wilderness Road the same year that the Americans and the British fired the first shots of the American Revolution at Lexington and Concord. That year Daniel Boone moved his family to Kentucky, where he founded Boonesborough. His wife and daughters were the first Anglo-American women to live in Kentucky. An Anglo-American is an American with English ancestors. The Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence in July 1776. In August a copy reached Boonesborough. During the bitterly cold winter of 1779-80, Boone established another Kentucky settlement, Boone’s Station, on Christmas Day.

Most male settlers in Kentucky served in the Kentucky militia. Boone was a militia colonel. Before, during, and after the Revolution, the British encouraged native people to fight Kentucky settlers. The British supplied them with weapons and at times fought alongside them. While Boone lived at Boone’s Station, about fifty British soldiers and about three hundred native warriors attacked 182 Kentucky militiamen. This battle, called the Battle of Blue Licks, occurred on August 8, 1782, ten months after Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown.

Boone moved back across the Appalachians and lived near Point Pleasant, Virginia (now in West Virginia), from 1788 to 1798. In 1799 he moved to land in what later became Missouri. Boone lived to be almost 86 years old.
Timothy Demonbreun, Trader

Timothy Demonbreun first came to a salt lick on the Cumberland River to trade for furs in the 1770s. The lick became known as French Lick. In his *Early History of Middle Tennessee*, published in 1906, Edward Albright wrote a description of Timothy’s first visit to French Lick. Albright said that Timothy sailed there on a boat with a short mast and a sail. The tall, athletic French-Canadian stood in the boat. He wore a blue hunting shirt, a red vest, deerskin leggings, and a fox fur hat. A fox tail hung down his back. Native people prostrated themselves before him, thinking he had been sent from the Great Spirit. That night Timothy and his crew camped near French Lick. In the morning, they hung red blankets, beads, and trinkets on a cord between two trees to show local natives that they were ready to trade for furs and pelts.

By 1774 Demonbreun had established a fur trading operation at French Lick. His business had eight boats and seventeen employees. He made annual trips to New Orleans to sell furs. For a while Timothy lived in a cave along the Cumberland River, and in 1774, he built a cabin to store fur and tallow.

Demonbreun’s great-great-grandfather, Gaspard Boucher, brought his family to Quebec, Canada, from France in 1635. Gaspard was a peasant carpenter. Gaspard’s son Pierre was 13 years old when his family arrived. At age 15, Pierre began to work with Jesuits in their mission to the Hurons (see page 181). During his life, Pierre served as an interpreter of native languages, a captain in the militia, and a government official. In 1661 he traveled to France to represent French colonists before King Louis XIV. Pierre wrote a book about New France to encourage other French people to come there as settlers. Pierre Boucher was the first Canadian to become a French nobleman.

Pierre’s first wife was a Huron. His second wife was Jeanne Crevier, a French nobleman’s daughter whose family had immigrated to New France in 1639. Jeanne’s father was a fur trader. Her parents ran a fur trading post. The Crevier’s great-great-grandson Timothy would later follow the same career. Pierre and Jeanne had 15 children, all of whom lived to adulthood. Pierre died in 1717 at age 95. In his will he said, “I have done what I could to live without reproach; try to do the same.”
Timothy was born in 1747 on the Boucher family estate (now Boucherville, a suburb of Montreal, Quebec, Canada). His grandfather, one of Pierre’s 15 children, took the title of nobility de Montbrun, which means “brown mountain” in French. Timothy’s full French name was Jacques Timothe Boucher de Montbrun.

Timothy’s father fought against the British in the French and Indian War. France lost most of its Canadian territory during the war. Timothy decided to leave Quebec and move to Kaskaskia where one of his uncles was living. He arrived there in the mid-1760s and soon began hunting and trading in the Cumberland River region.

Timothy was serving in the French militia at Vincennes when George Rogers Clark came there during the Revolution. Timothy and 127 other Frenchmen signed an oath of allegiance to the United States. Timothy joined Clark’s efforts against the British. After the American Revolution, Timothy was appointed Lieutenant Governor of the Northwest Territory in 1783.

Moses Winters, Pioneer

Moses Winters and his family lived in the Watauga settlement in what later became eastern Tennessee. In 1779 James Robertson, who had founded the Watauga settlement a few years earlier, was preparing to leave the Watauga area to lead a large group of settlers into Middle Tennessee. There they planned to build a settlement at French Lick on land purchased from the Cherokee. The Winters family decided to join them. Believing that an overland route would be difficult for women and children, the settlers decided that only the men and older boys would travel by land across the Cumberland Mountains. In the fall, the overland group left for French Lick, driving cattle before them. Moses Winters and his son Caleb were among them.

According to the group’s plan, some men stayed in Watauga to build thirty flatboats to bring the women, children, and enslaved people by way of the Tennessee River. John Donelson led this group. None of the settlers had ever traveled to Middle Tennessee by water. They were only guessing that it was possible. Due to delays in building the flatboats, they did not leave until December. Among the boat travelers were Moses’ wife, Elizabeth, and their seven daughters. Another girl on the flatboats was John Donelson’s daughter Rachel, who would one day marry the man who became our seventh president.
The men and older boys reached French Lick in December, the same month that the women and children left Watauga. This was the same cold winter when Daniel Boone established Boone’s Station. The Middle Tennessee settlers reached their destination on the same day Boone reached Boone’s Station, Christmas Day 1779. Robertson planned to build a temporary settlement on the southern side of the Cumberland River, but their route brought them to the north side. Robertson wondered how they would cross the river. Cold weather solved the problem. The river was frozen solid, so they and their cattle walked across the ice.

The men expected their wives and children to arrive in January. They began to venture away from the first settlement to build cabins for their families. They were in constant danger of attack from native people who did not agree with the sale of their hunting grounds.

Meanwhile, the boat travelers had terrible difficulties. Native people attacked them. Some of the travelers contracted smallpox. They were surprised by the treacherous waters of the Muscle Shoals in what is now northern Alabama. Settlers believed that the Tennessee River was close to French Lick, but they were badly mistaken. The flatboat travelers had to travel all the way to the Ohio River and then paddle against the Ohio’s current to the Cumberland River. They then had to paddle against the Cumberland’s current all the way to Fort Nashborough. See the Cumberland River on page 1 and map above. The boat travelers did not arrive until late April. They had traveled 1,000 miles. Moses Winters and his family settled on land about twenty miles from Nashville.

In 1786 Timothy Demonbreun resigned as lieutenant governor of the Northwest Territory and moved to Nashville permanently. The small town was only six years old and still called Nashborough. There he opened a general store. Many Revolutionary War veterans received land grants as payment for their service, including both Timothy Demonbreun and Moses Winters. The Duke of Orleans, the future King Louis Philippe of France, spent three years in the United States in the late 1700s. Demonbreun entertained him during his 1797 visit to Nashville.
In 1791 Moses and Elizabeth Winters became members of the Baptist Church of Christ. Their son Caleb was an active church member and preached on occasion. Moses and Caleb served on juries in the county court. Moses and Elizabeth Winters spent the rest of their lives in Middle Tennessee. They were buried under an ash tree in Robertson County (named for James Robertson).

**FAST FORWARD TO 1825 and 1953**

The Marquis de Lafayette visited Nashville in 1825 on his grand tour through America. During a dinner in Lafayette’s honor, Demonbreun was toasted as “the grand old man of Tennessee and the first white man to settle the Cumberland country.” Demonbreun died the following year. A Nashville newspaper reported: “Died, in this town on Monday evening last, Captain Timothy Dumumrane, a venerable citizen of Nashville, and the first white man that ever emigrated to this vicinity.” Demonbreun continues to be spelled many different ways.

*America the Beautiful* author Charlene Notgrass was born in 1953 in Robertson County, where Moses Winters’ land grant was located. She grew up in Cheatham County, where Timothy Demonbreun’s land grant was located. Charlene’s childhood was simple. Her father worked in his father’s small grocery store. Her mother was a stay-at-home seamstress. She is thankful for the faith her parents taught her from the time she was a baby.

Like every American, there is an historic reason why Charlene grew up where she did. She is descended from both Moses Winters and Timothy Demonbreun. Charlene’s paternal great-grandfather’s great-grandfather was Timothy Demonbreun. His great-grandfather was Pierre Boucher. On Charlene’s mother’s side, she is descended from Moses Winter’s son Caleb’s daughter Sally. Charlene’s family often crossed Caleb Creek when they traveled between the homes of her two sets of grandparents. In 2017 Charlene and her husband visited Boucherville in Quebec for the 350th anniversary of its founding, along with other Boucher descendants from Canada, France, and the United States.
Daniel Boone’s mother taught him faith in God. When he was 72 years old, he wrote a letter to his sister-in-law. With his poor spelling and grammar, he expressed a real faith:

I am as ignerant as a Child all the Religan I have to Love and fear God believe in Jesus Christ. Dowall the good to my Neighbors and my Self that I can and Do as Little harm as I can help and trust in God’s mercy for Rest.

Let us trust God the way Daniel Boone did. As the apostle John wrote:

Grace and mercy and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

2 John 3

Activities for Lesson 35

We the People – Read “The Adventures of Colonel Daniel Boone” on page 34.

Timeline – In Timeline of America the Beautiful next to 1774, write: Timothy Demonbreun is a fur trader at the French Salt Lick.

Student Workbook or Lesson Review – If you are using one of these optional books, complete the assignment for Lesson 35 and take the test for Unit 7.

Vocabulary – Write five sentences in your notebook using one of these words in each: immigrated, militia, expedition, interpreter, treacherous. Check in a dictionary if you need help with their definitions.

Creative Writing – Ask one of your parents the following questions: How did you decide that we would live here in ____? How did you choose this house (or apartment, etc.)? Do you want to stay here, or do you think about moving to a new place? Write a few paragraphs about what you learned from the interview.

Literature – Read the chapter titled “Evergreen Years 1794-1801” in Amos Fortune: Free Man. If you are using the Student Workbook or Lesson Review, answer the questions on Amos Fortune: Free Man.