

**From the Stacks**  
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As the United States prepares to celebrate the 250th anniversary of its independence, many Americans are taking time to reflect on the people, events, and ideals that shaped the nation's founding. One meaningful way to connect with that history is through books that bring the Revolutionary era to life for readers of all ages. From biographies and historical fiction to children's adventures, this special reading list offers a closer look at the courage, sacrifice, and determination that helped create a new nation.

The adult nonfiction selections provide readers with a deeper understanding of the real individuals behind America's early history. David McCullough's *1776* vividly recounts the difficult first year of the Revolutionary War and the perseverance of General George Washington and his troops. In *Founding Mothers and Ladies of Liberty*, Cokie Roberts shines a light on the often-overlooked women who influenced the nation's beginnings, while Walter Isaacson's *Benjamin Franklin: An American Life* explores the remarkable career of one of America's most inventive and influential founders.

Several titles also uncover lesser-known stories from the Revolutionary period. *The First Conspiracy* by Brad Meltzer examines the first assassination plot against George Washington, while Alexis Coe's *You Never Forget Your First* offers a fresh and modern perspective on the nation's first president. Rick Atkinson's *The British Are Coming* provides a sweeping account of the opening years of the Revolution and the battles that changed the course of history.

For readers who enjoy historical fiction, the list includes novels that blend historical detail with compelling storytelling. *My Dear Hamilton* and *America's First Daughter* by Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamoie explore the lives of Eliza Hamilton and Martha Jefferson Randolph, offering insight into the personal sacrifices made by families of the founding generation. *The Hamilton Affair* by Elizabeth Cobbs and *The Traitor's Wife* by Allison Pataki also transport readers into the political intrigue and uncertainty of Revolutionary America.

Young readers can also discover America's beginnings through engaging and age-appropriate books. James Giblin's *Fireworks, Picnics, and Flags* explains the origins of Independence Day traditions, while Lauren Tarshis's *I Survived the American Revolution, 1776* places readers in the middle of the conflict through the eyes of a young boy living during the war. Mary Pope Osborne's *Revolutionary War on Wednesday* introduces younger children to important events of the era, and *Yorktown* by Michael Weber highlights the decisive battle that helped secure American independence.

Civic literacy remains an important part of informed citizenship and active participation in the self-government envisioned by the nation's founders. By learning more about America's history and the responsibilities shared by its citizens, readers can develop a greater appreciation for the freedoms and opportunities enjoyed today. As the nation approaches this historic milestone, these books offer an opportunity not only to remember the past, but also to inspire future generations to become thoughtful and engaged citizens.