

# Espionage and Survival

TOPIC: FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES OF CYBERSECURITY

GRADES 6-8, 9-12

LESSON DURATION: TEACHER DISCRETION

SOFT SKILLS: RESEARCH, COLLABORATION, COMMUNICATION

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## Learning Outcomes:

- Students will define cryptography and show a general knowledge of the advancement of methodology.
  - Students will verbalize the importance of nation-states encrypting their information and decrypting that of enemies and the impact this has had on US history.
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## Materials:

- [Presentation](#)
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## Activities:

1. As a supplement to a teacher's discussion and units on the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, one should consider espionage and cryptography as a topic.
  2. The [presentation here](#) has segments and information that the teacher can use to supplement class activities.
  3. After presenting some basic information, assign students to small groups. Each group should research one of the names below. They should give important background information on the person but also describe his role in Revolutionary espionage. Lastly, students should research the type of cryptography the person used during the war. Students should develop an activity for their classmates to do so shows the espionage attempt. The activity should be a part of the group's presentation.
  4. Have the students present their information to the class. The class should also have to complete an encryption activity during the presentation. The teacher should make sure that each group has the proper sort of activity for the person assigned. Ideas are listed below for teacher reference.
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## Names for Teacher Reference:

- Paul Revere-visual signaling system
- Benjamin Thompson-invisible ink
- Benjamin Church-cipher messages
- Nathan Hale-hiding messages in his shoe
- General Howe-quill messages

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- Henry Clinton-masked messages
- Dr. James Jay-" stain and counterpart" method
- Benedict Arnold-book codes/dictionary codes
- James Lovell-decoded British ciphers
- Charles Dumas-encryption
- If interested, the National Cryptologic Museum offers a free publication entitled *Cryptology in the American Revolution*. It is available by request by writing to the  
*Center for Cryptologic History*  
*National Security Agency*  
*9800 Savage Road, Suite 6886*  
*Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6886*

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