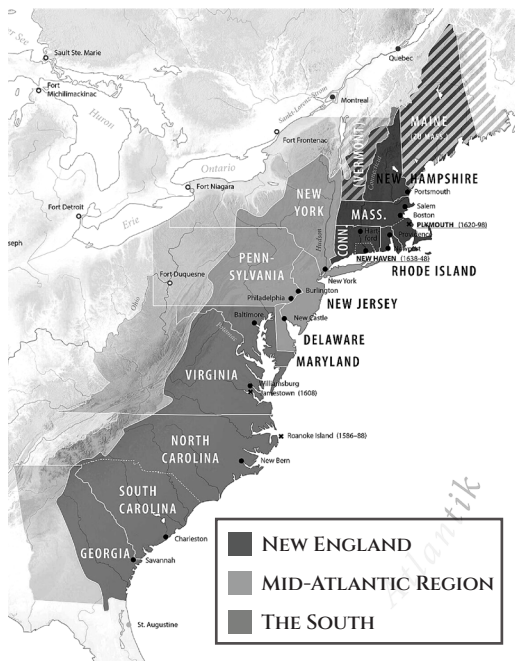


THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION IN NORTH CAROLINA

NORTH CAROLINA AND THE BRITISH SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN PART 1

- ◆ **Learning Outcome:** Students can explain the purpose and goal of the British Southern Campaign.



The American Revolutionary War took place between 1775 and 1783. During the first few years of the war, most of the fighting took place in northern states. There were many battles in **New England** (the states of Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire) and the **Mid-Atlantic Region** (the states of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and New York). This fighting led to a **stalemate** (a situation when neither side is able to win or make any progress toward winning a war).

The British held New York City and many other **coastal** cities and towns. The American Patriots controlled Boston and many of the **inland** cities and towns. Control of Philadelphia, which was the largest city in the United States at the time, went back and forth between the British and the American Patriots. Neither the British army nor the American **Continental Army** (the entire American Patriot army led by General George Washington) seemed able to win enough major battles to cause the other side to give up.

In 1778, the British came up with a plan to try to break this stalemate. This plan became known as the Southern Strategy or the **Southern Campaign**. British generals decided to use their powerful **navy** to capture the southern cities of **Charleston** (in South Carolina) and **Savannah** (in Georgia), and then use these two cities as bases for an invasion of the southern states. If they could take full control of **the South** (the states of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia), they could begin attacking the rest of the United States from the South and from the large cities that the British controlled along the coast. The British hoped that if they could attack the northern states from two directions at once — from the south and the east — they could break the stalemate in the Mid-Atlantic Region and New England. If so, they thought, they could win the war. However, this plan ultimately failed, at least in part because of the bravery, cleverness, and resourcefulness of the American Patriots living in North Carolina and neighboring states.



VOCABULARY WORDS

- ◆ New England
- ◆ Mid-Atlantic Region
- ◆ Stalemate
- ◆ Coastal
- ◆ Inland
- ◆ Continental Army
- ◆ Southern Campaign
- ◆ Navy
- ◆ Charleston
- ◆ Savannah
- ◆ The South

READING REVIEW QUESTIONS:

During the time of the Revolutionary War, what region of the United States included New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware?

During the time of the Revolutionary War, what region of the United States included Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire?

Explain how British leaders thought that invading the South would allow the British to win the American Revolutionary War.
