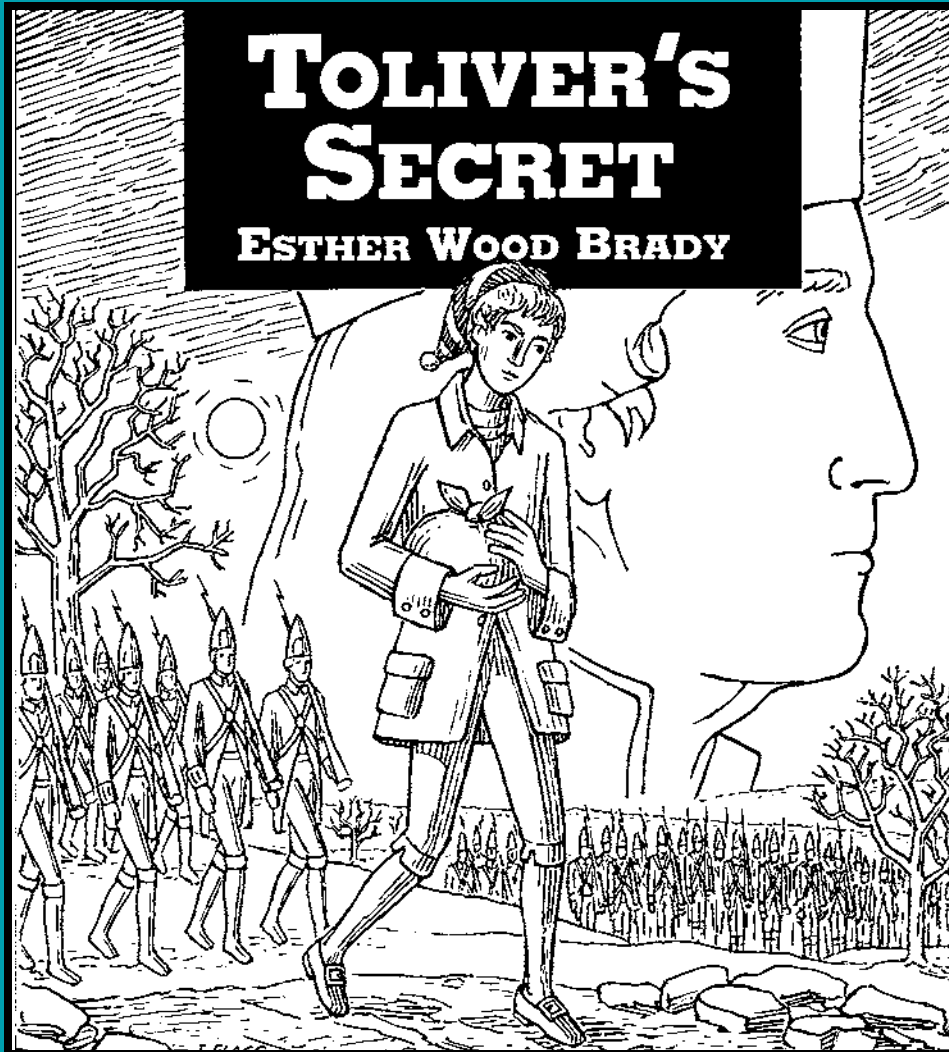


Novel·Ties



## A Study Guide

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**LEARNING LINKS**

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## For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide to use in conjunction with *Toliver's Secret* consists of lessons for guided reading. Written in chapter-by-chapter format, the guide contains a synopsis, pre-reading activities, vocabulary and comprehension exercises, as well as extension activities to be used as follow-up to the novel.

In a homogeneous classroom, whole class instruction with one title is appropriate. In a heterogeneous classroom, reading groups should be formed: each group works on a different novel at its own reading level. Depending upon the length of time devoted to reading in the classroom, each novel, with its guide and accompanying lessons, may be completed in three to six weeks.

Begin using NOVEL-TIES for reading development by distributing the novel and a folder to each child. Distribute duplicated pages of the study guide for students to place in their folders. After examining the cover and glancing through the book, students can participate in several pre-reading activities. Vocabulary questions should be considered prior to reading a chapter; all other work should be done after the chapter has been read. Comprehension questions can be answered orally or in writing. The classroom teacher should determine the amount of work to be assigned, always keeping in mind that readers must be nurtured and that the ultimate goal is encouraging students' love of reading.

The benefits of using NOVEL-TIES are numerous. Students read good literature in the original, rather than in abridged or edited form. The good reading habits, formed by practice in focusing on interpretive comprehension and literary techniques, will be transferred to the books students read independently. Passive readers become active, avid readers.

## **The Battle of Long Island**

In July 1776, British General Howe landed on Staten Island with 34,000 men to uproot General George Washington and his troops in New York City. Washington was in a dangerous situation on Manhattan Island, and he further weakened his army by sending part of his troops across to Long Island to fortify Brooklyn Heights. The British landed 20,000 troops on Long Island on August 22. The Americans were defeated in a fierce battle on August 27, after which the remains of the American army on Long Island ferried back to Manhattan.

## **Battle of Kips Bay**

On August 30, 1776, General Howe attempted to negotiate with the Americans, hoping to find them disheartened after their defeat on Long Island. This failing, Howe decided to pursue Washington and his troops. On September 13, British warships and transports began to move up the East River. During the morning of September 15, colonial militia units along Kips Bay were bombarded from British frigates, while more than 80 flatboats laden with soldiers massed behind the warships. The American militia defenders abandoned their trenches and fled inland. General Washington, on horseback, tried in vain to hold his men to their duty. The retreat of the American forces allowed New York City to fall into British hands.

## **Battle of White Plains**

In October 1776, realizing that he was vulnerable to British sea power as long as he remained on Manhattan Island, General Washington withdrew across King's Bridge. The evacuation was completed when, late in October, General Howe sent a fleet up the East River into Long Island Sound and landed troops in Westchester County, New York. He caught up with the Americans at White Plains. Although defeated in the all-day battle on October 28, Washington withdrew before the enemy could drive in for the kill. A few days later he crossed the Hudson into New Jersey. Howe, instead of following, returned to Manhattan Island.

## **Battle of Trenton**

General Washington received reinforcements from the army he had left behind in New York, and the state of Pennsylvania raised some militia. On Christmas night of 1776, while the Pennsylvania militia distracted other troops to the southeast, Washington crossed the Delaware and captured about 1,000 celebrating Hessians (German soldiers-for-hire) at Trenton, New Jersey. Encouraged by his success, Washington decided to go after other enemy outposts in New Jersey. He crossed the Delaware once again, only to be cornered by General Cornwallis at Assunpink Creek east of Trenton on January 2, 1777. Cornwallis, however, postponed the attack until morning, allowing Washington and his men to escape.

## **Battle of Princeton**

After escaping Cornwallis, Washington made his way toward Princeton, where he ran into three British regiments on January 3. The Americans won a narrow victory and managed to escape before Cornwallis could bring reinforcements up from Trenton. Washington then marched on to the hills at Morristown, where he went into winter quarters.

**PRE-READING ACTIVITIES**

1. Preview the book by reading the title and the author's name and by looking at the illustration on the cover. What do you think the book will be about? When and where does it take place? Have you read any other books on the same subject?
2. Read the Background Information on pages two and three of this study guide and do some additional research to learn about the events that led up to the American Revolution and some of the early battles of the war. Using a K-W-L chart, such as the one below, record some facts that you know in the first column, ask questions in the second column, and fill in the third column after you finish the book.

**American Revolution**

What I Know -K-	What I Want to Find Out -W-	What I Learned -L-

3. Using your knowledge of the American Revolution, classify each item in the box below under the heading "Pro-American" or "Pro-British." Do as many as you can before reading the book. Complete the rest as you read.

General Cornwallis	King George III	Hessians
General Howe	Lobsterbacks	Thomas Paine
Patriots	Rebels	Redcoats
Tories	General Washington	Yankees

**Pro-American**

**Pro-British**

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4. Discuss the meaning of the word "courage." What different kinds of courage are there? Can someone or something give you courage, or does it come from within? Can someone be afraid and still exhibit courage? Do you consider yourself a courageous person? Why or why not?