

## **Virginians Play Various Roles During the Revolutionary War**

1. Virginians played various roles during the Revolutionary War. Virginia patriots from all walks of life served in the Continental Army. Brave farmers, merchants, traders, craftsmen, and even ministers joined the fight for independence. Soldiers were not the only citizens supporting the war effort.
2. African Americans fought for the English because King George promised them freedom from slavery when the war was over. Over 5000 African Americans chose to fight for the Continental Army.
3. Women also took on more responsibilities during the war. They drove wagons, rode with army supply trains, made gunpowder, sewed and repaired uniforms for the troops, and worked as nurses and cooks. Even the women who remained at home contributed to the war. These women ran their family farms and grew food for the men and women on the battlefields.
4. Although many Virginians supported the war, some Virginians remained neutral. They did not take sides in the conflict. Others remained loyal to the king and their homeland of England. These colonists were called Loyalists. Loyalists hoped for reconciliation with England.