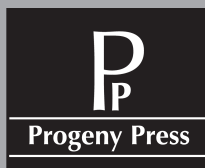


Sam the Minuteman Study Guide

by Colleen Schreurs

For the book by
Nathaniel Benchley

CD Version



Limited permission to reproduce this study guide.

**Purchase of this study guide entitles an individual teacher
to reproduce pages for use in the classroom or home.**

**Multiple teachers may not reproduce pages
from the same study guide.**

Sale of any printed copy from this CD is strictly and specifically prohibited.

Sam the Minuteman Study Guide

A Progeny Press Study Guide

by Colleen Schreurs

with Andrew Clausen, Rebecca Gilleland

Copyright © 1993 Progeny Press

All rights reserved.

Reproduction or translation of any part of this work
beyond that permitted by Section 107 or 108 of the
1976 United States Copyright Act without the written
permission of the copyright owner is unlawful.
Requests for permission or other information should be
addressed to Reprint Permissions, Progeny Press,
PO Box 100, Fall Creek, WI 54742-0100.
www.progenypress.com

Printed in the United States of America.

ISBN 978-1-58609-310-5 Book

978-1-58609-295-5 CD

978-1-58609-401-0 Set

Table of Contents

Note to Instructor	4
Synopsis	5
Background Information	6
About the Author.....	7
Before-you-read Activities	8
Vocabulary.....	10
Cause and Effect.....	14
Word Pictures	15
How the Author Creates Mood.....	17
Looking at the Story	19
Important Words to Remember.....	26
Thinking About the American Revolution.....	29
After-you-read Activities	36
Additional Resources	39
Answer Key.....	41

Synopsis

Sam and his mother and father live on a farm in Lexington, Massachusetts, in the year 1775. America is still a British colony, but the people are unhappy. In Boston, Sam sees soldiers sent by the King of England to keep order. “They want to keep us from being too strong,” Sam’s father tells him.

One night in spring, Sam awakens to hear church bells ringing. The British soldiers are marching to Concord where the colonists have hidden weapons. Sam’s father, a Minuteman, rushes to the village green, hoping to hold back the British army. Sam goes along to help.

In the early morning light, the British troops appear. There seems to be a thousand soldiers, and only 80 Minutemen. Outnumbered, the Minutemen begin heading back to their homes. But someone, somewhere fires a gun, and without warning, the Revolutionary War begins.

Sam the Minuteman Study Guide

5. The British soldiers had to march through Lexington. Where were they going?

Why were they going there? _____

6. The Minutemen had waited all night for the British, dawn was breaking and it was quiet. Sam suddenly noticed his surroundings. List the things he notices.

Why do you think he noticed these things? _____

7. What was the outcome of the first battle? _____

Sam the Minuteman Study Guide

Dig Deeper:

15. Look up the word *injustice* in your dictionary and write the definition in your own words. _____

When you see an injustice, an unfair situation, or a situation where God is not being honored, you may become angry just as Jesus and Moses did. Below are some examples of situations that might make you angry. Under each situation write a good way to use your anger and a bad way to use your anger.

Example 1:

You see a bully in the schoolyard picking on a boy much smaller than himself. This makes you angry, so you . . .

Good Response

Bad Response

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Example 2:

Your brother finds the drawing you have been working on for days. He starts to scribble on it before you notice. When you finally notice, the drawing is completely ruined, and you get angry. You . . .

Good Response

Bad Response

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Sam the Minuteman Study Guide

16. Read Ephesians 4:26 again. Do you think it is a sin to be angry? _____

What does the verse mean when it says “When you are angry, do not sin”?

17. If you were in the same situation that Sam was in, would you have been angry?

What would you have done? _____

18. Write about a time when you got angry and what you did (whether you responded well or not). Then think about what you’ve read in the Bible and write how you might have acted differently. Use another sheet of paper if you need more room to write. _____

Answer Key

Vocabulary

Definitions:

disperse: to separate; go in different directions

bayonets: short knife-like instruments that fits on the barrel of a rifle

riots: disturbances of the public peace by a number of persons

revolution: sudden change in the government of a country; to rebel against authority

glinting: to flash out as with a stream of light

1. riots; 2. notice; 3. distance; 4. glinting / bayonets; 5. disperse; 6. revolution.

Mystery Word: courage. mental strength to face difficulty; bravery; accept reasonable definitions.

Optional Exercise:

1. Answers will vary.

2. Answers will vary.

Cause and Effect

Reading down the right column: 4, 5, 2, 1, 3.

Word Pictures

1. a: a bright river of red; b: buzzed about like bees; c: lobster backs.

2. Similes will vary. You may wish to put the students in small groups and have each group come up with one simile.

3. Answers will vary. The students should indicate that their voices get louder.

4. Answers will vary. The author is trying to give the reader a sense of what it was like to hear the marching of the troops coming closer and growing louder.

How the Author Creates Mood

1. b; 2. c; 3. b; 4. a; 5. a.

Looking at the Story

1. Most of the minutemen, like Sam's father, were farmers.

2. She worked indoors cooking and making the things they needed.

3. Answers may vary. Food was provided for the family, crops that they grew could be sold, clothing was made for the family. Accept reasonable responses.

4. The British soldiers were afraid the colonists were becoming too strong.