

What If?

Directions

Tell students that a **dialogue** is a conversation between two or more people.

Have students create a make-believe dialogue between two or more people they have “met” during their reading of Revolutionary War history and literature.

Tell them that it is important that they get “inside” each person as they decide what that person will say. Explain that this will help make the words they give that person sound more believable!

Here are some dialogue ideas you can give them:

- * King George III, Samuel Adams, and Benjamin Franklin talk about a peaceful solution to the crisis between England and the colonies.
- * A Patriot and a Loyalist actively debate the impending war with England.
- * Three members of the Sons of Liberty talk about why and how they will be involved in the Boston Tea Party.
- * Paul Revere and William Dawes discuss the night of April 18, 1775.
- * Benedict Arnold explains his reasons for becoming a traitor to a distinguished group of Patriots.
- * George Washington and Charles Cornwallis meet in a Yorktown restaurant after the war.
- * Johnny Tremain travels to London after the war to meet with Jonathan Lyte, Lavinia Lyte, and Isannah.
- * Dr. Warren’s treatment of Johnny’s hand is successful. They discuss Johnny’s future.
- * Lieutenant Stranger and Johnny Tremain meet at a horse show after the war.
- * The boy who rang the bell which called Jonathan to war in *The Fighting Ground*, wants to go to war. He asks Jonathan for his advice.
- * Jonathan and the Corporal meet in Rocktown after the war.
- * After the war, a family of Hessians settles next to the New Jersey farm of Jonathan and his family. The families meet for the first time.
- * List your own dialogue ideas on the back of this page.

Be sure to tell students to practice their dialogues before they present them to the class. Remind them to speak and act as if they really are the people who are talking!