

*The Battle  
of  
Yorktown*

**Investigation:  
Everything can be seen  
in more than one way!**

*Sort-it  
sets*

**Materials:**

- Three sets of cards featuring images of Yorktown (12), George Washington (9), and the Marquis de Lafayette (9)
- Bibliographic information for each image

**Suggested Activities:**

These activities can be used either as an introduction to the Battle of Yorktown or as an analysis activity after learning about the people and events there.

1. Break your class out into groups of three students each. Give each group an individual set of sources. Give them one minute to sort through the images and decide what they represent. Then have them exchange with a group that had a different set and do the same thing. Switch one more time so every group has seen each set. Then discuss as a class what the sets represent and how they are related.
2. Break your class out into groups of three students each. Give each group a full set of sources. Give them two minutes to sort the sets and put the images into three groups. Have them write down an explanation of why they sorted the groups the way they did. Then have them shuffle the cards and re-sort them into different groups. Again have them explain the organization on paper. Have your students shuffle and re-sort one more time, again writing down their decision.

Now have each group decide which organization out of the three they think was the best. Lead a class discussion allowing the groups to explain what they did and their reasoning.

**Background Information:**

For more information on the Battle of Yorktown, George Washington, and the Marquis de Lafayette go to "Shaping the Constitution" at [www.virginiamemory.com/shaping](http://www.virginiamemory.com/shaping)

**Virginia Standards of Learning (SOLs):**

VS.5 (b-c);USI.6 (c)