

Inquiry Design Model (IDM) Blueprint™

Compelling Question	How does a person become a traitor?	
Standards and Practices	4.3d, 7.3d, 11.2b Gathering, Interpreting and Using Evidence Chronological Reasoning	
Staging the Question	Read aloud “Treason of the Blackest Dye...” Discuss: What is treason? What was the attitude toward treason in the 18 th century?	
Supporting Question 1	Supporting Question 2	Supporting Question 3
What was Major John Andre doing near Tarrytown on September 23, 1780?	How did Benedict Arnold feel about his experience in the Continental Army?	Based on the evidence, was Benedict Arnold guilty of treason?
Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task
Andre’s Boot: Analyze the documents found in Andre’s boot. Share the evidence with members of the group. Determine what Andre was doing near Tarrytown, NY on September 23, 1780.	Read and analyze the letter from Benedict Arnold to Colonel Varick. Read for tone and content. Generalize about Arnold’s overall attitude toward his service in the Continental Army using evidence from the letter.	Corroborate the Evidence. Determine if Arnold was guilty of treason and list the evidence that supports your conclusion.
Featured Sources	Featured Sources	Featured Sources
Artillery Orders and Estimate of forces at West Point Pass for John Anderson Estimate of Men Necessary to Man the Works at West Point	Letter. Benedict Arnold to Colonel Varick about Rewarding for Merit, October 30, 1776	Notes from analysis of the documents in Andre’s boot and the letter from Arnold to Varick, 1776
Summative Performance Task	Argument	Write an argumentative essay describing Arnold’s path to treason and determine whether or not he was justified in his decision to help the British.
	Extension	Consider what may have happened if Andre had not been caught in 1780.
Taking Informed Action	Choose a current event topic. Find at least two sources supporting each side of the issue. Analyze each source for reliability and validity. Which side appears to have the strongest argument? Why?	