



2002

It's Revolutionary

Elizabeth Moss

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Boiko, Claire. *It's Revolutionary*. Encore Performance Publishing, 1994. ISBN 1575140098.
Contact publisher regarding price. 34 pp.

Reviewer: Elizabeth Moss

Reading Level: Intermediate

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Plays; Historical Plays; Musicals;

Subject: United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783--Juvenile drama;

Theme: The American Revolution

Production Requirements: Many scene changes and many costumes but they can be simply done

Acts: 3

Run Time: 70 min.

Characters: 68

Cast: children

Time Period: America 1770s and present day

A modern family waits for the Fourth of July Parade to begin and discusses the American Revolution. They act as a segue way between the various sketches of the Revolution. There is a fashion show, a baseball game, a family adventure, the Betsy Ross flag, and the Declaration of Independence.

This would be an excellent play for an elementary school class or two or three to produce. It is an engaging play with so many characters that each child could have a part. There are large parts and small parts and with double casting, the number of students is extremely flexible. While producing this play, the children learn about many aspects of the Revolution. The facts presented are accurate and would provide an excellent learning opportunity. The dialogue is informative and witty. There are jokes that would please a parental audience or an audience of other classes. Some songs are involved, but most are to familiar tunes like Yankee Doodle or Columbia, Gem of the Ocean. The sets and costumes could be simple or elaborate. There are five scenes that could each have their own set or could be played against a simple background. I would thoroughly recommend this play as a class production where students could learn about the American Revolution in a new and exciting way.