Soldier's Secret: The Story of Deborah Sampson

Pat Frade
Deborah Sampson wanted more out of life than child rearing and household duties. She wanted to read, to travel, and to have adventures. She never had any desire to be a man, but when her family abandons her and her country needs her, she determines to do everything she can to be able to fight like a man. She enlists in the army to support General Washington in the War for Independence, disguising herself and battling as a young man—and fooling everyone for over a year. She learned the hardships of the War first hand and kept her identity hidden until she was wounded.

Soldier’s Secret is an easily read biography for beginning/intermediate readers of the true story of a woman who made historical history at the time of the Revolutionary War. Sheila Solomon Klass does an admirable job of translating Deborah’s true story for readers. She brings historical details vividly to life, and will give readers an understanding of both women and soldiers’ colonial life.