**SOCIAL STUDIES 7 UNIT 3 THE CONQUEST OF NORTH AMERICA: THE BATTLE FOR QUEBEC CLASS ACTIVITY**

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The Seven Years War**: 1756 – 1763 Britain and France at war with each other, but almost every other great power at the time was involved as well, fighting with either the British or the French. Battles were fought in Europe and North America, as well as other areas of the world.

For the following activity, half the class will be the English and the other half will be the French. Read the information for your army carefully, and then plan your military strategy and tactics. Remember that like in any competition, your actions may have to change in response to something the other side does.

**BRITISH ARMY – GENERAL JAMES WOLFE**

You are the aggressive power and, now that you have gained access to the St. Lawrence by conquering the fortress at Louisbourg, your goal is to conquer Quebec (and once you have Quebec, it will easy to take over Montreal and therefore all of New France). Choose a student from your group whom you think will make the most effective general. Use the map of the reverse of this sheet to plan your overall strategy and the actions you will use to accomplish it.

**You have**:

1. 200 ships, both war ships and supply ships, with both naval and army commanders.
2. Approx. 9000 British soldiers and troops from 13 Colonies, even more sailors (1/4 the entire British fleet) (About 4500 men fought on the Plains of Abraham)
3. Cannons, guns, grapeshot, “Brown Bess” (a gun that is lighter than anything the French have, and is effective at 75 yards).

**Things to consider**:

Where will you set up camps?

Will you use your cannons, and if so, where?

Remember: you are the aggressive power, the French the defenders – how will you engage the enemy if they take refuge in the city?

Quebec is built on a high bluff: how will you get up cliff to fight?

Are your ships vulnerable?

What time of day will you attack?

Consider what might affect the precise movement of your ships and boats.

Cliffs at Quebec are 180 m. high

Montmorency Falls are 83 m. high (30 m. higher than Niagara Falls)

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**FRENCH ARMY – GENERAL MONTCALM**

You are defending Quebec from the English invasion. Some of you are trained soldiers from

France, but many of you are residents of New France defending your homes and farms. You know the British have captured Louisbourg and that now, the next summer, they will head down the St. Lawrence to try to conquer New France. Choose a student from your group who will make the most effective general. Use the map on the reverse of this page to plan how you are going to defend your homeland.

**You have**:

1. Approx. 15,000 total (on the Plains of Abraham he had 2000 soldiers from France, 600 colonial army, 1800 militia and Aboriginals)
2. A stone fort, built on a high bluff overlooking the St. Lawrence River
3. Ships, cannons, muskets, bayonets.
4. Control of all the land north and south of Quebec, with settlements on both sides of the river.

**Things to consider**:

Will you use your cannons, and if so, where?

Where will you build fortifications (the city had stone walls, but outside the city these would be made of earth)?

Will you wait to be attacked or will you attack the British first?

What will you do if Quebec is besieged (ie. the British prevent supply ships from providing you with necessities to live)?

How will you prevent the British from scaling the cliffs protecting Quebec?

Cliffs at Quebec are 180 m. high

Montmorency Falls are 83 m. high (30 m. higher than Niagara Falls)

 Map of the St. Lawrence River



 Map of Quebec and its surrounding area