

# AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE MUSEUM

*A Spy Called James: The True Story of James Lafayette Revolutionary War Double Agent* by Anne Rockwell shares the little known true story of the great service and sacrifice of a man whose dedication to the fight for liberty helped alter the war.

## *Questions to Consider:*

- Why do you think James wanted to serve in the Continental Army and help America gain independence?
- Why do you think his enslaver allowed James to join the cause?
- Did anything about James' story surprise you?
- Why do you think it took James so long to gain his freedom?

## *Activities:*

### Memory Mind Game



James needed to use his memory to recall conversions and details he gathered from the British to share with Lafayette. It was not safe to write down information, so most was passed on based on memory. Let's see how good your memory is!

- You will need someone to play with
- A box, bag or container and 5-10 household objects
- One of you will fill the container with objects (do not let your partner see!)
- Place that container somewhere in the house or outside.
- Give directions to your partner to the container
- Allow them 10 seconds to look at the items in the container.
- Have them come back to you and report on the items in the container, what they were, any and all details (placement, color, etc). Then return to the container to see how correct they were.
- Switch and do again with new objects.
- Would you have made a good spy?

## *Additional Resources*

[James Armistead Lafayette, Williamsburg](#)

[James Lafayette - Britannica Kids](#)

[Lafayette's Testimonial to James Armistead Lafayette · George Washington's Mount Vernon](#)

[A Conversation with James Armistead Lafayette](#)

[Liberty's Kids HD 135 -James Armistead | History Cartoons For Kids](#)

[James Lafayette, classroom lesson plan](#)

[African Americans in the Revolutionary War · George Washington's Mount Vernon](#)