



Did you go to school if your family supported the Loyalists?

Loyalists felt they had to protect their children after the war started. Boys and girls may have been sent to attend school in Canada, England, or other countries in the British Empire. You lived at the school or with a relative.

If you stayed in America, there were a few private schools, mostly in the South. School could last eight hours a day, Monday through Saturday. On Sunday, there was always some type of religious meeting.

But if a tutor could be found, your parents probably kept you at home and the tutor came to give you lessons. A parent or older brother sometimes taught younger children.

You learned to read or write using textbooks printed in England. Ink was made by buying ink powder and mixing it with water.

You may also have learned to speak French, dance, and play a musical instrument.

Poor children in the South may have gone to “field schools,” where lessons were taught outdoors by some adult.

Slaves, even if they supported the British cause, were not usually provided with any education.