My Brother Sam is Dead
(Time Capsule)

You will be creating a time capsule filled with documents, artifacts, and personal effects from the Meeker family's experience of the American Revolutionary War. **Some everyday items that make great time capsules are (but not limited to):** a large shoe box, large Quaker™ Oats cylinder, 2 Liter soda bottles, large laundry detergent box/bucket, or anything else this size.

**Items that will need to go into the time capsule:**
1. **Family Letters**
2. **Diary Entries of Family Members**
3. **Newspaper "Clippings"**
4. **Artifacts from the Novel**

**1. Family Letters**
Write one from the following:

- Susannah Meeker to Sam....Sam to Susannah Meeker
- Tim Meeker to Sam....Sam to Tim Meeker

Include information from the novel, and incorporate at least four Revolutionary facts. These historic sites and events may provide the concrete information you need to complete this task.

Write from your character's point of view. Use a graphic organizer to identify your character's traits and feelings.

**2. Diary Entries of Family Members**
Write very old entries torn out of a diary from someone in the Meeker family! Writing a diary entry from one of the following characters from the novel: Susannah Meeker, Sam Meeker, Tim Meeker, Life Meeker.

1. Include information about one of the historical conflicts that the character needs to confront in the novel.
2. Your diary entry needs to at least a half a page long, handwritten, single-spaced.
3. Include the character's emotions regarding the conflict.
4. Include personal insight into the character's point of view regarding the conflict. Use a graphic organizer to identify your character's traits and feelings.

3. One Newspaper Clipping

Write a newspaper clipping, or find one on the Web, related to events and conflicts that were part of *My Brother Sam Is Dead*.

If you can find real ones, great job! The 18th Century Newspapers [http://www.7cs.com/colonial/nwspr.htm](http://www.7cs.com/colonial/nwspr.htm)

- Here are some possible headlines/news stories:
  - *Yale students go off to fight Lobsterbacks!*
  - *Redding turns into a Tory town!*
  - *Cowboys threaten Loyalists beef tenderloins from getting to Lobsterbacks!*
  - *General Tyron’s British Raid Redding!*
  - *Executioner Putnam puts two Redding Natives to death.*
  - *Mother silently grieves.*

If you choose to write your newspaper clipping, it should be two paragraphs long. The first paragraph should include information that answers these questions: who, what, where, when, and why/how? The second paragraph should include interesting facts/information about the event.

4. One Artifact from the Novel

Each of you will create or "recreate" an artifact from the Meeker home. Here are some ideas.

- a mug or tap head from the tap room
- knitting materials from Susannah Meeker's knitting basket
- Tim's fishing pole used to fish for shad

**Area** | **Minimal Effort** | **Meets Requirements** | **Great Job!** | **Wow! Fantastical Job!**
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1. Creativity | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4
2. Supporting Information on topic | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4
3. Neatness | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4
4. Importance of the issue or importance to the book. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4
5. Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation, 6 Traits) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4
6. Effort | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4