

Mercy Otis Warren



Patriot





A long time ago, in the 1700s, Mercy Otis Warren grew up in Barnstable, Massachusetts.

She liked to read and write stories. She loved to learn new things.



Mercy had six brothers and six sisters. She was the oldest.

She was a big help to her family with so much to do on the farm and in the house.



In colonial times, girls only went to school for a few years.

As the oldest daughter, she was expected to learn to sew, spin cloth and cook meals in a fireplace. There were no stoves back then!

Even though Mercy had a lot of chores, she also wanted to learn more about life and the world.



Mercy's uncle was a teacher.

He helped Mercy's brother Jemmy get ready for college.

Mercy wanted to learn too, and she begged her father to let her go with Jemmy. And he agreed!

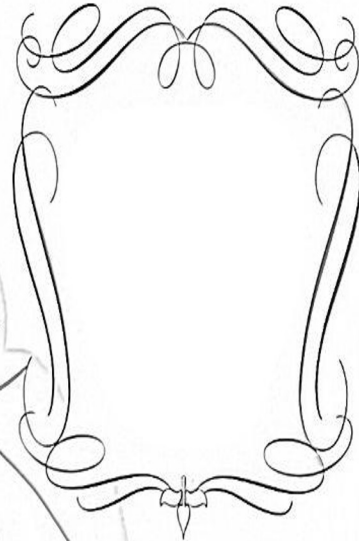
At school, she learned all about the world. Reading was her favorite hobby!



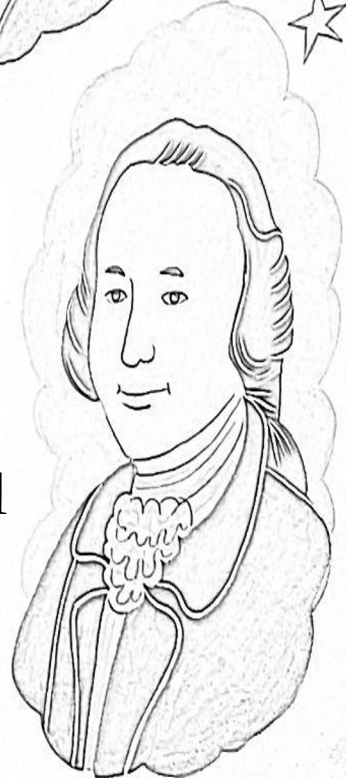
As Mercy became a grown-up, she learned people in America were not happy being ruled by the King of England. They wanted to be free.

Mercy didn't like the King's rules either. She thought the people who lived in America should be able to make their own rules.

In 1754 Mercy Otis married James Warren and they lived with their growing family in Plymouth, Massachusetts.



They were good friends with some of the other Founding Mothers and Fathers of our country, George and Martha Washington, John and Abigail Adams, Paul Revere and Sam Adams.





Mercy and James worked together with them at the kitchen table, thinking of ideas to help America become a free country. They were known as the Sons of Liberty.

They wanted everyone to have the same rights, just like you have the right to play and have fun!

Mercy had a super-power! She wrote poems and plays and stories that were read all over the country. She wrote to teach others about the importance of freedom and then others started to work for freedom, too.





Her writing helped people decide that they really didn't want to be ruled by the King.

She wrote a long book about the history of the American colonies and why it was important that Americans rule over themselves.

Mercy was a Founding Mother of our country and was a very brave woman! She listened to her heart!

What is *your* super-power?

What does the word *freedom* mean to you?