RESOURCES: COMPANY COMMANDS

**Directions to Teacher:** Use the following commands to line students up like soldiers, and command them to march as a single unit. These instructions are adaptations of eighteenth-century military commands.

**Form company!** Line up shoulder-to-shoulder with all toes on an imaginary line (or a real line made with masking tape), in one, two, or three even rows. "Company" refers to the group as a whole.

**To the right—face!** All soldiers turn to their right a one-quarter turn. Instead of a verbal command, one tap or beat of a drum may be used.

**To the left—face!** All soldiers turn to their left one-quarter turn. Instead of a verbal command, two taps or beats of a drum may be used.

**To the right, about—face!** All soldiers turn halfway around (180 degrees) and face the opposite direction. Instead of a verbal command, three taps or beats of a drum may be used.

**To the front—face. March!** March, beginning on the left foot. To speed marchers, increase beat frequency. A drum can be used instead of verbal commands to mark time.

**Left (or right) wheel!** Turn a line of soldiers toward the left. Be sure to tell the soldier at the left (or right) end of the line to march in place while the rest of the line swings around. The soldier on the furthest end of the line leads the turn (for example, a left wheel requires the soldier on the right end to lead the turn).

**Take care... Halt!** Everyone stop.