

**Research Topic – The Civil War**

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| <b>Research Topic</b>                           | The Civil War- April 12, 1861 - May 9, 1865<br>Locations- Southern United States, Northeast United States, Western United States, Atlantic Ocean<br>Union Victory   |
| <b>Grade Level</b>                              | Middle School/Grades 6-8  |
| <b>Time Required</b>                            | 1 class period (45-60 minutes)  |
| <b>Ohio's Learning Standards History Strand</b> | Disputes over the nature of federalism, complicated by economic developments in the United States, resulted in sectional issues, including slavery, which led to the American Civil War.<br>Key events and significant figures in American history influenced the course and outcome of the Civil War.<br>The Reconstruction period resulted in changes to the U.S. Constitution, an affirmation of federal authority and lingering social and political differences.   |
| <b>Common Core Standards</b>                    | <u>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.1</u><br>Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.<br><u>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.2</u><br>Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.<br><u>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.3</u><br>Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/social studies.<br><a href="http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RH/6-8/">http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RH/6-8/</a> |
| <b>Objective</b>                                | Students will be able to identify components of the Civil War which divided the country over the issue of slavery, states' rights and westward expansion.<br>Students will gain an understanding of the divided views of the Civil War and why it was known as the war of brothers.<br>Students will analyze why the Civil war was the most expensive and deadliest war ever fought on American soil with 620,000 of 2.4 million soldiers killed.<br>Students will investigate why the war ended with divided views and the start of Reconstruction and the Civil Rights movement.          |
| <b>Research Statement</b>                       | The Civil War was fought in the United States from 1861 to 1865. It is the most studied and written about event in U.S. history. The Civil War began primarily as a result of the long-standing controversy over the enslavement of African Americans and people of African descent.  |
| <b>Introduction</b>                             | People in the North were opposed to slavery, advocates of the Union, and proclaimed support for the Constitution. Their adversaries were secessionists of the Confederate States in the South, who supported states' rights to uphold slavery. In April 1861, soon after Abraham Lincoln, who supported banning slavery in all U.S. territories, was inaugurated as the President of the United States, war broke out when secessionist forces attacked Fort Sumter in South Carolina on April 12, 1861.  |
| <b>Supporting Idea I</b>                        | Lincoln won the presidency because the Republican Party secured a plurality of the popular votes and a majority of the electoral votes nationally. However, prior to his inauguration, the seven slave states with cotton-based economies – Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Texas, and South Carolina – declared secession and formed the Confederacy. The eight remaining slave states initially  |

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|                                    | continued in the Union but after war began four slave states of the Upper South — Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina — also joined the Confederacy.  |
| <b>Supporting Idea II</b>          | Both outgoing Democratic President, James Buchanan, and the incoming Lincoln, said that secession was illegal. Lincoln attempted to calm the fears of the Southern States of any threats to slavery in his March inaugural address by stating that his administration would not initiate a civil war. After Confederate forces seized federal forts within Confederate territory and efforts at compromise failed, both sides got ready for war. The Confederacy assumed that since European countries, dependent on cotton, would recognize it as a new nation and intervene, but none did.  |
| <b>Supporting Idea III</b>         | During 1861 to 1862, after war began, the Union made major, permanent gains in the Western Theater, but in the Eastern Theater, the war was not conclusive. In September 1862, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which made ending slavery a war goal. In 1863, Robert E. Lee's Confederate offensive north ended at the Battle of Gettysburg. Then, Ulysses S. Grant's took command of all Union armies in 1864. The war was brought to a close by tightening naval blockades of Confederate ports; the Union's attacking the Confederacy from all directions; William Sherman's taking of Atlanta and march to the sea; the Siege of Petersburg, and Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, on April 9, 1865, brought the war to a close. |
| <b>Conclusion</b>                  | The Civil War was among the earliest industrial wars: railroads, the telegraph, steamships and iron-clad ships, and mass-produced weapons were utilized extensively. The utilization of civilian factories, mines, shipyards, banks, transportation, and food supplies all foretold the impact of industrialization in subsequent wars. It is the deadliest war in American history. From 1861 to 1865, the lives of an estimated 10 percent of all Northern men 20–45 years old, and 30 percent of all Southern white men aged 18–40 were lost.  |
| <b>Resources</b>                   | DK, <i>DK Eyewitness Books: Civil War: Witness the War That Turned a Nation Against Itself from the Brutal Battles to its Legendary Commanders</i> , DK Children, 2015<br>O'Connor, Jim, <i>What Was the Battle of Gettysburg?</i> , Penguin Workshop, 2013<br><a href="https://www.britannica.com/event/American-Civil-War">https://www.britannica.com/event/American-Civil-War</a><br><a href="https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/brief-overview-american-civil-war">https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/brief-overview-american-civil-war</a>   |
| <b>Visual Thinking Strategies</b>  | Visual Thinking Strategies transforms the way students think and learn by providing training and curriculum for people to facilitate discussions of visual art that significantly increase student engagement, performance and enjoyment of learning.<br><a href="https://vtshome.org/about/">https://vtshome.org/about/</a>  |
| <b>Assignment</b>                  | Have students take 3-5 minutes to look at the images.<br>Ask students to describe what they see in the images.<br>Ask students what more can they tell you about the images.<br>Ask why?  |
| <b>Assessment</b>                  | Using visual cues, student should observe and discuss people, the way individuals are dressed, the activity of individuals, if individuals look familiar landscapes, backgrounds, etc. Students should be able to articulate what they see in each image using visual thinking strategies.  |
| <b>Critical Thinking Questions</b> | The Civil War was followed by a 12-year period of political reintegration known as the Reconstruction Era: what events have followed that period that are still moving the United States toward the goal of political reintegration?  |



**Title**

Co. C, 110th Pennsylvania Infantry after battle of Fredericksburg, Va.

**Created / Published**

[photographed between 1861 and 1865, printed between 1880 and 1889]

**Subject Headings**

- United States.--Army.--Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment, 110th (1861-1865)
- United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865
- United States--Virginia--Fredericksburg

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2013648606/>

**Title**

Front of "slave pen," Alexandria, Va.

**Summary**

Photograph showing a Union army guard and other men in front of a building designated Price, Birch & Co., dealers in slaves, at 1315 Duke St., Alexandria, VA. Before that, the premises were owned by the slave-trading firm Franklin & Armfield. The Union army used the former slave jail to house Confederate prisoners.

**Contributor Names**

Russell, Andrew J., photographer

**Created / Published**

[between 1861 and 1865]

**Subject Headings**

- Slave quarters--Virginia--Alexandria--1860-1870
- Buildings--Virginia--Alexandria--1860-1870
- United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Military personnel--Union

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2006683273/>



**Title**

[Abraham Lincoln]

**Summary**

Photograph showing portrait of Lincoln, seated, holding glasses and paper, taken August 9, 1863.

**Contributor Names**

Gardner, Alexander, 1821-1882, photographer

**Created / Published**

[1863]

**Subject Headings**

- Lincoln, Abraham,--1809-1865

**Format Headings**

Albumen prints--1860-1870.

Cartes de visite--1860-1870.

Portrait photographs--1860-1870.

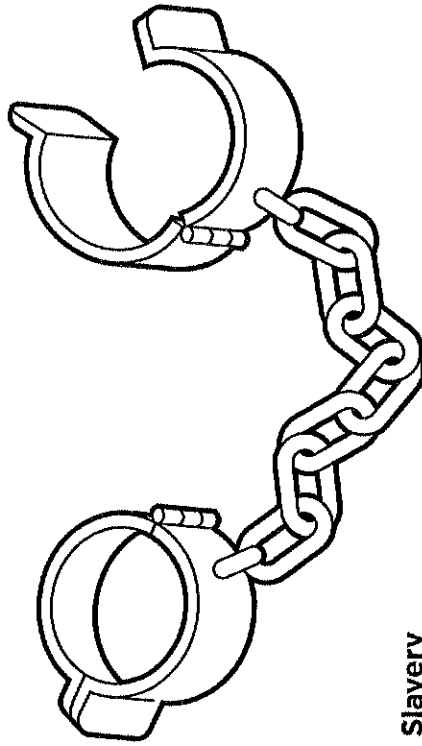
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2008680386/>

# The Civil War

NATIONAL  
VETERANS  
MEMORIAL  
AND MUSEUM

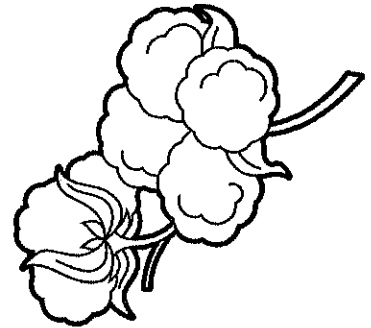
April 12, 1861 – April 9, 1865

Primarily as a result of the long-standing controversy over the enslavement of African Americans and people of African descent, war broke out in April 1861 when secessionist forces attacked Fort Sumter in South Carolina shortly after Abraham Lincoln had been inaugurated as the President of the United States. The loyalists of the Union in the North proclaimed support for the Constitution. They faced secessionists of the Confederate States in the South, who advocated for states' rights to uphold slavery.



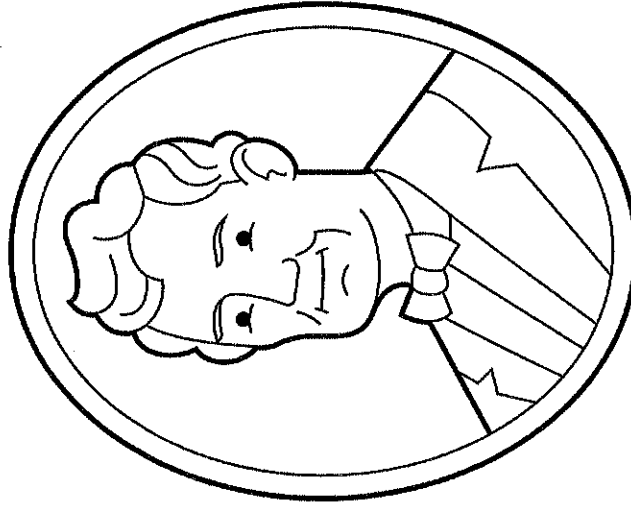
## Slavery

Many enslaved African Americans and those of African descent bore the scars of horrific treatment during the time of slavery. Slave holders punished the enslaved using whips, iron shackles and devices that prevented them from escaping from southern plantations.

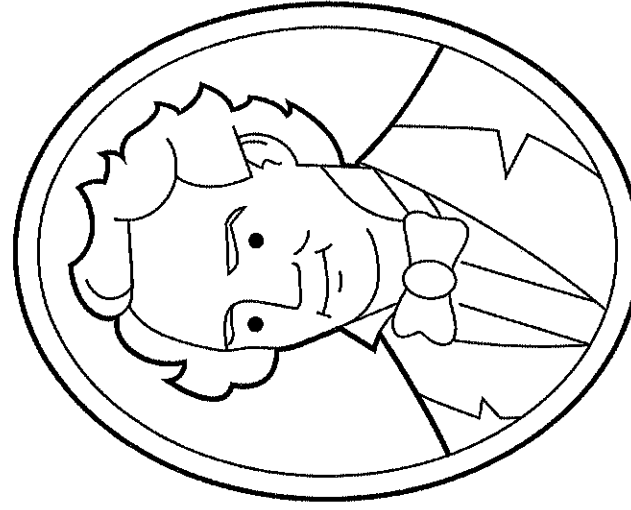


## Cotton

At the time of the Civil War, cotton had become the most valuable crop of the South and comprised 59% of the exports from the United States. As a result, it played a vital role in the conflict. For southern producers, the war disrupted both the producing and the marketing of what they hoped would be the financial basis of their new nation.



Daniel McCook



John McCook

## The Fighting McCooks

The Fighting McCooks were members of a family of Ohioans who reached prominence as officers in the Union Army during the American Civil War. Two brothers, Daniel and John McCook, and thirteen of their sons were involved in the army, making the family one of the most prolific in American military history. Six of the McCooks reached the rank of brigadier general or higher. Several family members were killed in action or died from their wounds. Following the war, several others reached high political offices, including governorships and diplomatic posts.

NATIONAL  
VETERANS  
MEMORIAL  
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**The Confederacy** included the states of Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia. Jefferson Davis was their President.

Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri were called **Border States**.