

Social Studies 6 Wagner

Days 11-16

Day 11: Read the passage by yourself or with an adult about "A Soldier's Life". After reading about the Union and Confederate soldiers, complete the Venn diagram to compare the two. Write the things that are different about them on the outer circles and write the things that are the same about them in the part that overlaps each other.

Day 12: Read the passage about the Battle of Gettysburg by yourself or with an adult. After you read, answer the question below.

Day 13: Read the passages, "Meet Robert E. Lee" and "Meet Ulysses S. Grant", by yourself or with an adult. After reading, complete the Venn diagram to compare the two. Write the things that are different about them on the outer circles and write the things that are the same about them in the part that overlaps each other.

Day 14: Read the passage about Reconstruction by yourself or with an adult. After you read, answer the questions below.

Day 15: Read the passage about the Amendments to the U.S. Constitution by yourself or with an adult. After you read, answer the question below.

Day 16: Go outside and walk around your yard. Find a flower, interesting shaped rock, tree, etc. that interests you. Write me two sentences to describe the item and draw a picture.

A SOLDIER'S LIFE

Soldiers during the Civil War had it tough! They ate salted pork, hardtack (dried hard bread), beans, rice, and coffee each day. A soldier had to carry all of his gear including clothes, dishes, canteen, rifle, ammunition, and a blanket. They had to live through the dangers of battle with little food, water, and sleep. They marched all day long in extreme temperatures and weather. And, that was if you were lucky enough to not get shot, injured, or taken prisoner. Soldiers had to follow orders from their commanders no matter what! Soldiers not only had to be tough, they had to be brave too!

A Union Soldier

Union Soldiers fought for the North. They were also known as Yankees. They woke up as soon as the sun rose to practice for battle. In between their drills, they had to do chores, eat, and clean their equipment. They also had to fix their uniform. Yankees wore blue uniforms with brass buttons and special belts and harnesses to hold their weapons. They were allowed to write letters home and play card games in between their trainings. The average age to join the army was 25 years old, but boys as young as 16 were enlisted by the end of the war. Union soldiers were paid about \$12 a month and were drafted to join. If you came from a wealthy family, you were able to make a large donation so you would not have to fight.



A Confederate Soldier

Soldiers for the Confederacy also lived day to day like the soldiers for the Union. They were constantly preparing for war by practicing drills, keeping their uniforms in order, and cleaning their weapons. Confederate soldiers were called Rebels, or grey backs. This is because their uniforms were made of grey wool. They had a special belt and harness to hold their weapons. They also had shiny gold buttons on their jackets. Rebels made about \$10 a month serving for the military. Like the Yankees, the Rebels had to carry a knapsack that held their personal belongings, which included a canteen, musket, and a blanket. You had to be at least 18 years old to enlist in the Confederate army.

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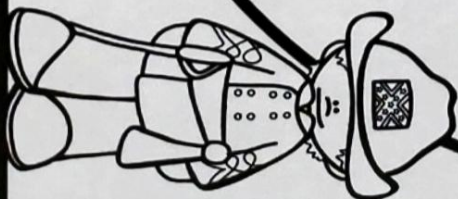
Name: _____

A Soldier's Life

The North

The South

Compare and Contrast a Union Soldier to a Confederate Soldier.



Name: _____

The Battle of Gettysburg

The Battle of Gettysburg happened in July 1863 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The battle lasted for three long days! The Northern troops wanted to end the long war with this battle. The Southern troops were led by General Robert E. Lee. The Northern troops were led by General George Meade. General Lee moved into the state of Pennsylvania. The Northern troops were able to stop him in the small town of Gettysburg. This was a big win for the North and was one of the most important battles in the war.

Three long days of fighting made the troops for both sides very tired. The battle was very long and many troops died. Close to 50,000 men were killed, hurt, or taken to jail. General Lee told his troops to leave because they were just about out of supplies and food. General Lee's badly beaten troops had to run away. President Lincoln wanted General Meade to follow Lee and end the battle once and for all. Meade did not think that was a good idea and chose to let his troops rest. His choice meant that the war went on for two more years. After the Battle of Gettysburg, it looked like the Union was going to win.

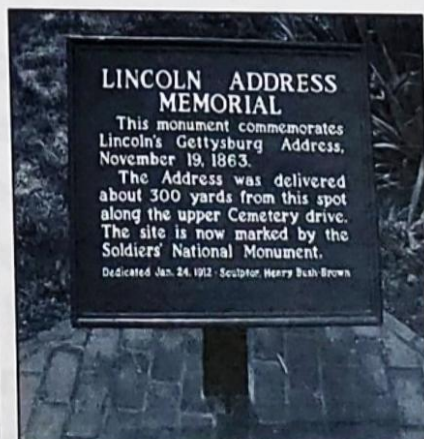
On November 19, 1863, President Lincoln held an event to open the Gettysburg National Cemetery and honor the troops who had died there. In his Gettysburg Address, he told the people that the nation was built on freedom and the idea that all men should be treated the same. Lincoln's speech became one of the most famous speeches ever given.

Why did President Lincoln think it was important to remind people about our country being built on the idea that *all men are created equal*?

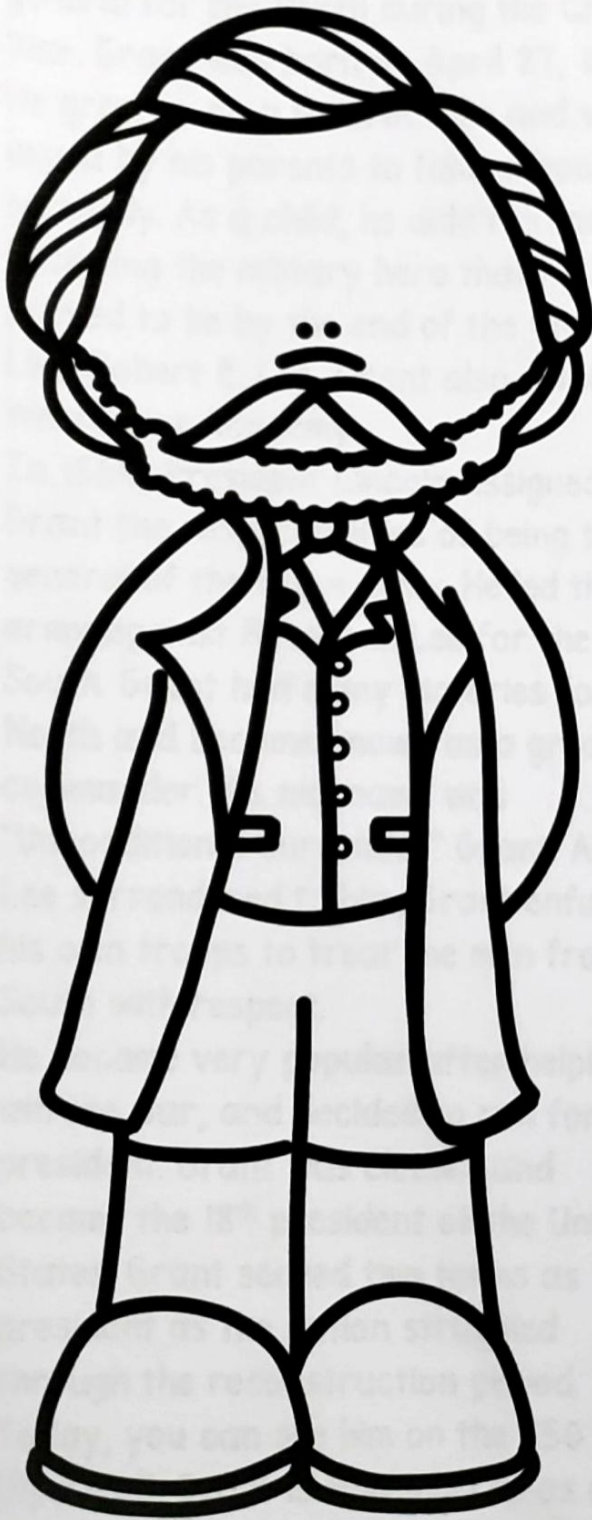


"Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

--President Lincoln



MEET ROBERT E. LEE



Robert E. Lee was a very important general for the South during the Civil War. He was born in Virginia in 1807. Lee graduated at the top of his class from West Point Military Academy at a young age. He then served as a soldier in the Mexican War. Little did he know, that one day he would become one of the most famous generals in American history.

In 1861, President Lincoln asked Lee to command the Union Army. Since Lee was from the South, he refused and joined the Confederate Army instead. As a general, he took risky gambles that paid off. He earned the nickname of the "Grey Fox" because the South wore grey and he was very sneaky and smart, just like a clever fox. Lee's troop's loved and praised him. During the war, Robert E. Lee proved himself to be one of the best commanders because of his strong leadership style and skillful military strategies.

On April 9, 1865, Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant at the Appomattox Courthouse. After the Civil War, Robert E. Lee became president of Washington College in his home state of Virginia. General Lee is remembered today as an important military leader during the Civil War.

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MEET ULYSSES S. GRANT

Ulysses S. Grant was an important general for the North during the Civil War. Grant was born on April 27, 1822. He grew up on a farm in Ohio and was urged by his parents to take school seriously. As a child, he didn't dream of becoming the military hero that he proved to be by the end of the Civil War! Like Robert E. Lee, Grant also attended West Point Academy.

In 1864, President Lincoln assigned Grant the responsibilities of being the general of the Union army. He led the army against Robert E. Lee for the South. Grant had many victories for the North and became known as a great commander. His nickname was "Unconditional Surrender" Grant. After Lee surrendered to him, Grant enforced his own troops to treat the men from the South with respect.

He became very popular after helping to win the war, and decided to run for president. Grant was elected and became the 18th president of the United States. Grant served two terms as president as the nation struggled through the reconstruction period. Today, you can see him on the \$50 bill. Ulysses S. Grant is remembered as a great leader and a true war hero.



Name: _____

Two Civil War Generals

General Lee

General Grant

Compare and Contrast General Robert E. Lee to General Ulysses S. Grant.

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Name: _____

Reconstruction

Not long after the war ended, something bad happened! On April 14, 1865, a man named John Wilkes Booth walked into a theater where President Lincoln was watching a show. He shot the president. Lincoln died the next morning. He was the first president to be killed while serving as the President of the United States. A Southern man named Andrew Johnson became the new president.

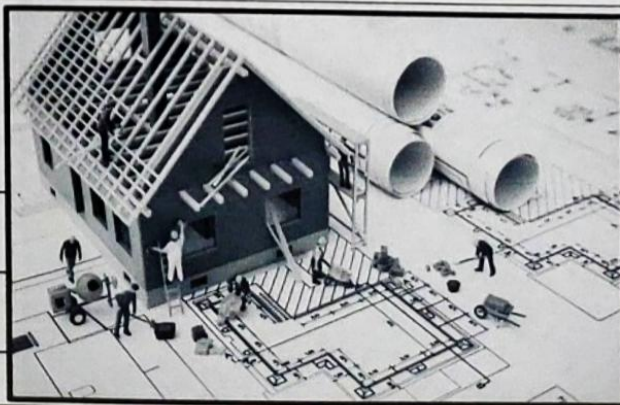
Many of the Southern United States were left in pieces after the Civil war. Farms and homes were burned down and their crops destroyed. Many people had money from the Southern states, too. This money could not be used anymore. Many towns had no one in charge. There was no one to make sure laws were followed. The South needed to be fixed. President Lincoln had a plan to rebuild the United States. It was now up to Congress and President Johnson to put the nation back together.

The years of work to fix the South after the Civil War was called the Reconstruction. This time lasted from 1865 to 1877. It was important because it helped the South to join the United States again. Troops took over much of the South at this time to make sure that laws were followed. They did not want another war to happen.

Leaders had to decide how to help all the enslaved people who had been set free. They were not ready for their new lives. Many people still did not agree with their freedom. They kept treating them badly. People from the North and people from the South were also still mad at each other because of the war. The United States took important steps to build the country back up. They wanted it to be a nation where all men were free and treated fairly.

Why are the years following the Civil War called the "reconstruction" period?

Why do you think it took so long after the war to rebuild the nation?



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Name: _____

Amendments to the U.S. Constitution

To help bring the states back together, changes to the laws needed to be made. Three important changes were made to help make this happen. They were the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments to the United States Constitution.

The 13th Amendment made it against the law to have an enslaved person in the United States. This amendment became part of the Constitution in 1865. Many people were not happy about this and they tried to break the rules. They still thought they should be able to have enslaved people. They could now be sent to jail if they did not follow the laws.

The 14th Amendment kept the enslaved people who had been set free safe. It helped make sure that people were treated the same. It was made into a law in 1868. It is the longest amendment in the Constitution. It said that all black men, women, and children have the same rights as everyone else. It did not matter what color their skin was. The amendment also told people what it took to be a citizen. It said that anyone who is born in the United States is a citizen and has all the rights of a U.S. citizen. This was a big win for the black men and women. Their families were now given the same rights as everyone else.

The 15th amendment was made into law in order to give black people the right to vote. This happened in 1870. It stated that no one should be kept from picking a leader of their country based on the color of their skin. These three amendments changed the way that African-Americans lived. They were the stepping stones that were needed in order to bring the country back together.

How did passing the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution help to rebuild the nation?

