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8th grade
ILA/Social Studies

This pathfinder concerns the literature and folklore of the American Civil War. Literature contains novels, short stories, and poetry from the time period. Folklore contains slave narratives, letters, speeches, and other primary sources from the time period.

ILA Standards:**Reading Applications: Informational, Technical and Persuasive Text**

- Identify and use the organizational structure of a text, such as chronological, compare-contrast, cause-effect, problem-solution, and evaluate its effectiveness.
- Recognize how writers cite facts, draw inferences and present opinions in informational text.
- Distinguish the characteristics of consumer materials (e.g., warranties, product information, instructional materials), functional or workplace documents (e.g., job-related materials, memoranda, instructions) and public documents (e.g., speeches or newspaper editorials).

Reading Applications: Literary Text

- Explain how authors pace action and use subplots, parallel episodes and climax.
- Compare and contrast different points of view (e.g., first person and third person limited, omniscient, objective and subjective), and explain how voice affects literary text.
- Identify and explain universal themes across different works by the same author and by different authors.
- Explain ways in which the author conveys mood and tone through word choice, figurative language, and syntax.
- Examine symbols used in literary texts.

Writing Applications

- Write responses to literature that organize an insightful interpretation around several clear ideas, premises or images and support judgments with specific references to the original text, to other texts, authors and to prior knowledge.

Research

- Identify appropriate sources and gather relevant information from multiple sources (e.g., school library catalogs, online databases, electronic resources and Internet-based resources)
- Explain the usefulness and accuracy of sources by determining their validity (e.g., authority, accuracy, objectivity, publication date and coverage) and define primary and secondary sources.

SS Standards:**History: Benchmark G: Analyze the causes and consequences of the American Civil War.**

- Describe and analyze the territorial expansion of the United States including: Northwest Ordinance; Lewis and Clark expedition; Westward movement including Manifest Destiny; The Texas War for Independence and the Mexican-American War.
- Explain causes of the Civil War with emphasis on: a. Slavery; b. States' rights; c. The different economies of the North and South; d. The extension of slavery into the territories, including the Dred Scott Decision and the Kansas-Nebraska Act; e. The abolitionist movement and the roles of Frederick Douglass and John Brown; f. The addition of new states to the Union and their impact on the balance of power in the Senate, including the Missouri Compromise and the Compromise of 1850; g. The emergence of Abraham Lincoln as a national figure in the Lincoln-Douglas debates, the presidential election of 1860, and the South's secession.
- Explain the course and consequences of the Civil War with emphasis on:
 - a. Contributions of key individuals, including Abraham Lincoln, Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant; b. The Emancipation Proclamation; c. The Battle of Gettysburg.

People in Society: Benchmark B: Analyze examples of interactions between cultural groups and explain the factors that contribute to cooperation and conflict.

- Analyze the economic, geographic, religious and political factors that contributed to: a. The enslavement of Africans in North America; b. Resistance to slavery.

Economics: Benchmark A: Explain how the endowment and development of productive resources affect economic decisions and global interactions.

- Explain how the uneven distribution of productive resources influenced historic events such as the Civil War.

Citizenship Rights and Responsibilities: Benchmark A: Show the relationship between civic participation and attainment of civic and public goals.

- Show the relationship between participating in civic and political life and the attainment of individual and public goals including: a. The Sons of Liberty and Committees of Correspondence/American independence; b. The Underground Railroad and the abolitionist movement/Abolition of slavery.

MEDIA RESOURCES

- Glover, Jacqueline, et al. Unchained memories readings from the slave narratives. New York, N.Y.: HBO Video, 2003.
- Berlin, Ira. Remembering Slavery African Americans Talk About Their Personal Experiences of Slavery and Emancipation. New York: The New Press, .

MUSEUM WEBSITES

- <http://rememberingslavery.si.edu/>
This is the Smithsonian's companion website for the Remembering Slavery... book and audio (listed in Media Resources).
- <http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/civil-war-docs/>
Explore this for original letters, telegrams, and photographs from the Civil War.

- <http://www.ohiohistory.org/resource/database/civilwar.html>
Explore this for primary sources from the Civil War archived by the Ohio Historical Society.
- <http://www.civilwar.si.edu/collections.html>
This provides many original primary sources from the Civil War from the various Smithsonian collections.
- <http://americanhistory.si.edu/militaryhistory/collection/>
This allows you to search through military related items from many wars. Click on "Civil War" to locate items.
- http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/warletters/wl_02.html
This is a collection of letters written during the Civil War.

REFERENCE

- Hillstrom, Kevin, Laurie Collier Hillstrom, and Lawrence W. Baker. Experiencing the American Civil War: Novels, Nonfiction Books, Short Stories, Poems, Plays, Films & Songs. Experiencing eras & events. Detroit: UXL, 2002.
This is volume one containing novels and nonfiction books related to the Civil War.
- Hillstrom, Kevin, Laurie Collier Hillstrom, and Lawrence W. Baker. Experiencing the American Civil War: Novels, Nonfiction Books, Short Stories, Poems, Plays, Films & Songs. Experiencing eras & events. Detroit: UXL, 2002.
This is volume two containing short stories, poems, plays, films and songs related to the Civil War.

BOOKS

- Wolny, Philip. The Underground Railroad: A Primary Source History of the Journey to Freedom. New York: Rosen Pub. Group, 2004.
- Silverman, Jerry. Songs and Stories of the Civil War. Brookfield, Conn: Twenty-First Century Books, 2002.
- Slave Narratives. The Library of America, 114. New York: Library of America, 2000.
- National Underground Railroad Freedom Center (Cincinnati, Ohio). Unchained Memories: Readings from the Slave Narratives. Boston: Bulfinch Press, 2002.
- Commager, Henry Steele, and Erik A. Bruun. The Civil War Archive: The History of the Civil War in Documents. New York: Black Dog & Leventhal, 2000.
- Seidman, Rachel Filene. The Civil War: A History in Documents. Pages from history. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001.
- Harness, Cheryl. Ghosts of the Civil War. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2001.

WEBSITES

- <http://etext.virginia.edu/civilwar/>
This leads to the University of Virginia's Civil War collection. Electronic versions of letters, speeches, and literature from the Civil War can be found there.
- <http://www.civil-war.net/>
This site contains links to reproduced text from documents and links to letters and other primary sources.

- <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~UG97/remus/selections.html>
This links to Uncle Remus tales.

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

- <http://memory.loc.gov/>
This leads to American Memory. Search for Civil War materials. There are over 3,000 Civil War letters, documents, and speeches archived here.

LITERATURE

Most of these are available at every library and bookstore. Most are public domain and available in online formats. There are also film versions of most of these.

- Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
- The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
- The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane
- Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe

OTHER LITERATURE

- Whitman, Walt. The Civil War Poems. New York: Barnes & Noble, 1994.
- Larson, Clinton F. The Civil War Poems. Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Studies, 1989.