

The Civil War in Arkansas: A Curriculum Guide

Dear Teachers:

The Civil War is one of the most critical and fascinating events in American history. It is one of the most studied and most written about historic events since the inception of this country. In Arkansas, it is a very important subject of local study since it occurred in our backyard. Many of us have direct links to Civil War soldiers and events. We can get into our cars or walk down the street to visit a battle site in Arkansas.

As a result, the following curriculum has been designed for elementary, junior, and senior high classes in Arkansas history. It is a cookbook for teachers. Exercises are recommended, but it is up to the instructor how each section will be used in the classroom. Students completing the unit will be able to:

- * Discuss social, political, and personal issues that Arkansans confronted during the Civil War era.
- * Discuss the central issues of the Civil War in Arkansas from a variety of different perspectives.
- * Identify changes that were brought about by the Civil War in Arkansas, including technology, medicine, and slavery.
- * Use primary sources to study cultural perspectives of the Civil War in Arkansas.
- * Use the bibliography and Internet to locate resources related to the Civil War, then incorporate this information into their own writing about Arkansas history.
- * Discuss the impact the Civil War has on 20th century and will likely have on 21st century lifestyles in Arkansas.
- * Understand the importance of preserving Civil War sites and artifacts for future interpretation.



Unit Outline:

Timeline for the Civil War

Suggested Civil War Books for Your Library

General Summary: The Civil War in Arkansas

Regional Summaries: Northwest, Northeast, Southeast, Central, and Southwest Arkansas

Strand One: Interdependence/Appendix 1

Strand Two: Continuity and Change/Appendix 2

Strand Three: Cultural Perspectives/Appendix 3

Strand Four: Scarcity and Choice/Appendix 4

Strand Five: Cooperation and Conflict/Appendix 5

Strand Six: Citizenship/Appendix 6

Glossary

Bibliography

Videos

Civil War Organizations/Preservation Societies

Civil War Web Sites

The authors of this curriculum are:

Steve Adams, Superintendent
Pea Ridge National Military Park

Lea Flowers Baker, Education Coordinator
Department of Arkansas Heritage

Doug Keller, Interpreter
Pea Ridge National Military Park

Don Montgomery, Historian
Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park

Acknowledgements:

Stacy Allen, Historian
Shiloh National Military Park

Arkansas History Commission

Mark Christ
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Dr. Thomas A. DeBlack
Arkansas Tech University

Tammie Dillon
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Steve Gunn
Arkansas Agricultural Statistics Service

Headquarters House and Dee Dee Lamb
Washington County Historical Society

National Cotton Council

Randy Noah
Plantation Agriculture Museum

Old Washington Historic State Park

Barbara Patty
Arkansas Department of Education

Dr. Bobby Roberts
Central Arkansas Library System

Dr. Bill Shea
University of Arkansas - Monticello

Dana Simmons
Arkansas Territorial Restoration

Georganne Sisco
Old State House Museum

Bill Wright
Teaching With Historic Places/National Park Service

