

CHILDREN IN THE CIVIL WAR

by Ray Hanson

Objectives - TEKS 5.4D

- ~ Students will gain an understanding about how children were affected by the Civil War.
- ~ Students will use and interpret primary and secondary source materials to explore perspectives of the Civil War.
- ~ Students will interpret and analyze photographic images from the American Memories collections.

Time and Materials

- ~ One or two class periods
- ~ Computer and projector and Computer Lab Time

Context

The students will use historical fiction and primary source images from the Library of Congress American Memories collection to explore a child's perception of the Civil War era. The focus will be to examine history from a child's point of view, rather than from an adult perspective.

Lesson Outline

Explore the Civil War era photographs from American Memories "Children in the Civil War" collection. View the gallery of images and select one image of a child to examine more closely. Next, work as a historian to carefully examine and analyze the photographic image you selected. As you work, use the Photo Analysis Guide to complete your examination. Remember to describe the physical attributes, age, and other traits that you observe or infer from the photographic image. Using your detailed description on the Photo Analysis Guide, write a literary portrait of your selected child. Be prepared to share your literary portrait with the class.



<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/lesson99/civilwar.html>

Assessment TAKS:

One major effect of the Civil War was that –

1. many people in the South thought Lincoln was trying to end their way of life
2. the United States never again admitted a new slave state to the Union
3. the South could have won the war
4. the Southern economy and people suffered many hardships

Informal Assessment:

Use a photograph of the children in your family and describe the physical attributes, age, dress, and write a literary portrait from your point of view.

