

Picturing Life During the Civil War

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5th Grade Social Studies

Overview of the Lesson (brief summary)

The Civil War was America's first photographed war. Students will use photographs from the Library of Congress, plus a Photo Analysis Worksheet developed by the National Archives and Records Administration to gather information and draw conclusions about life during the Civil War.

TEKS/TAKS

5.4D - Describe causes and effects of the Civil War

5.25A – Use Primary Sources

Objectives: The learner will

- **Use a Photo Analysis worksheet developed by the National Archives and Records Administration to analyze a picture taken during the Civil War**
- **Use a primary source document to learn about the Civil War**
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Time Required 1 45-minute class period

Materials Needed: Civil War PowerPoint

Computer and projector

Copies of pictures for students to analyze

Photo Analysis Worksheet from the National Archives (link to this sheet is on the last page of the PowerPoint program).

Procedure

- **Ask students about life in the Army during the Civil War. Tell them you are going to share pictures from the war to see what it was like. Distribute the Photo Analysis Worksheets to the students. As a class, view, make notes and discuss the first picture. (Note: I have the entire picture divided into quadrants, then I have each quadrant on a separate slide.) Complete the steps of the Photo Analysis process with the students orally. (I have separated the sections of the sheet in a PowerPoint slide show if you want to toggle between the two programs and make your notes show up on the screen.) Then have students do the second picture in small groups as you show the whole picture and prompt them through the steps. Once again, show the 4 separate quadrants in the slideshow.**
- **Distribute copies of a picture to the students. (In addition to the two pictures I have divided into quadrants, I have 5 additional pictures taken during the war.) Have the students work in small groups to analyze one or more of the pictures. Have the class discuss the pictures and what they learned about the Civil War.**
- **Informal assessment: Have the students create analogies or a T-chart to analyze the differences in life in the military during the Civil War and during our War in Iraq.**

▪ **Formal Assessment:**

Use this photograph your knowledge of Social Studies to answer the following question.



This photograph was taken near a strategic city on the Mississippi River which surrendered to General Ulysses Grant in July 1863. This city is:

- A. New Orleans, Louisiana
- B. Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
- C. Vicksburg, Mississippi
- D. Memphis, Tennessee

Answer: C

Document Source: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphhtml/cwphome.html>