

Civil War for middle/high school



Special Needs for Special Kids



This unit was created with this guy in mind. He has autism and an intellectual disability. He also loves Sesame Street, but I am finding he has a wide variety of interests. He is my tester!!

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*This unit contains over 100 pages of material. But, don't worry!! I have included a **7 day lesson** plan to help you make the most of everything packed in this unit.*

Civil War Lesson Plan

Preparation

- Print out a vocabulary board for each student to use throughout unit
 - Laminate or place in page protector
- Book
 - Print out, laminate, and bind
 - OR your students can listen to the pre-recorded version
- Vocabulary cards
 - Print out a set of cards onto cardstock and laminate
 - Make one set for each student and also one for the teacher to use in I Spy games
- Print the large timeline cards on cardstock and laminate.
 - For additional ideas on how to use these, go to: <https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2018/06/13/making-a-life-sized-timeline/>

Preassessment (do day 1 before starting lesson)

- Choose the form of the assessment that best fits the learning level of your students
- Give the assessment to assess what your students may already know
- I cannot emphasize enough how important this step is. If you want to see growth, this preassessment is so important!!

Teaching Tips

1. *Color Coding:* this is a really easy way to add more structure to a matching activity. Outline or color in an empty box or sorting label. Outline or color in the corresponding picture symbols the same colors. Becomes a color matching task.
 - a. For more info, read more here: <https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2015/09/05/using-color-coding-for-differentiation/>
 - b. I also have a blog post on differentiating one activity 3 ways: <https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2018/10/22/differentiating-1-activity-3-ways-easily-and-effectively/>
2. *Make your own copies of the activities:* Every day I review the activity we did yesterday. For that reason:

The lesson plans contain:

Overall tips for teaching students with significant needs

Quick Look

Day	Activity
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity• Circle map
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity• Sorting activity
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity• Important People booklet
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity• Vocabulary cut and paste
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity• Vocabulary cut and paste• Large timeline activity
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab cards activity• Large timeline activity• Cut and paste timeline
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment

The lesson plans contain:

A quick look at what you will do each day

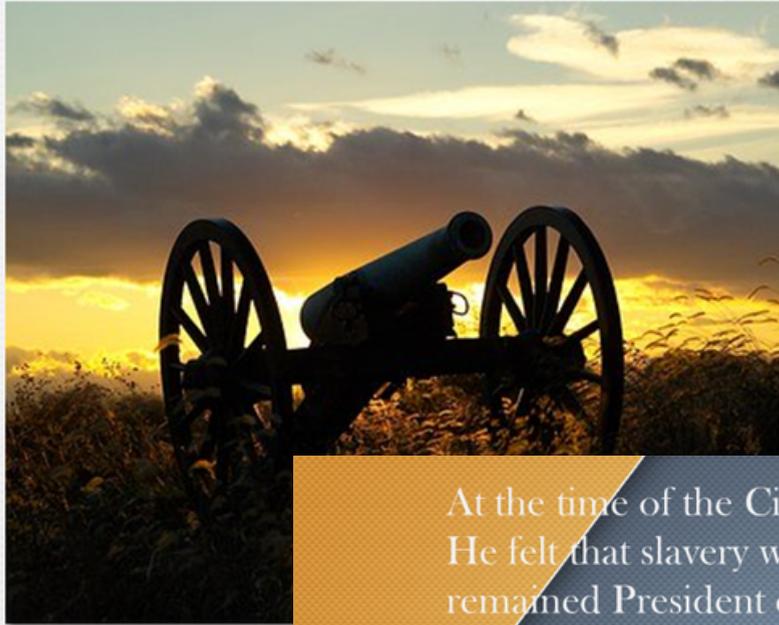
Day 2

Activity	Notes	Materials
Read or listen to a recording of the book (15 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read through the story, asking lots of questions<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Therefore it usually takes me a little longer to read each day. I can ask more questions as they get more familiar with the material.◦ You don't want to ask so many questions you lose the flow of the story, but enough to make sure your students are truly engaged• Continue to make connections between book and vocabulary board	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocabulary board
Vocabulary cards I Spy Game (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I play this game, or variations of it the first few days<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Determine how many cards your students can handle in front of them. This can vary, some students may be able to have all the cards, so may only be able to handle a field of 3-5• Since this is the first time playing this game, I make it easy. Hold up a card, and have students find the matching one and hold it up• Discuss relevant points on the card<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ You can also play this game in this manner having them find the symbol on their vocabulary board	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vocabulary cards (student set and teacher set)• Vocabulary board
Circle map review (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review the circle map completed yesterday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circle map completed yesterday
Sorting North vs South activity (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do the sorting activity• Remember to use color coding as needed for extra support• Make connections to the book as necessary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sorting activity• Scissors• Glue

The lesson plans contain:

Detailed instructions on how that day's lesson should run

The Civil War was one of these great wars that occurred between 1861 and 1865.



At the time of the Civil War, **Abraham Lincoln** was president. He felt that slavery was wrong and should be abolished. He remained President of the **Union** during the war.



This unit contains a 27 page book with simple text.

The book come in a pdf AND a voice recorded powerpoint (so you will not have to print it out.)

This unit comes with a vocabulary board.

Vocabulary boards are great for ALL students to assist with participation and engagement in group discussions.

Tips on how to use in the unit!!



Also in black and white

Civil War

War from 1861-1865 between the North and South



Union

Made up of 23 northern states



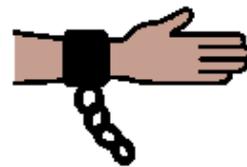
Confederacy

Made up of 11 southern states



slavery

Act of owning people and making them work for no money



This unit comes with 16 vocabulary cards.

Every day students will do a group activity using these cards to get more familiar with words that are likely new to them.

Also in black and white

Abraham Lincoln

Jefferson Davis



General Grant

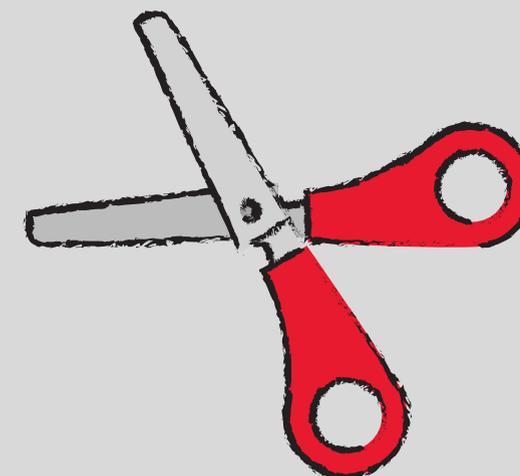
General Lee



Cut apart and match pictures with definition.

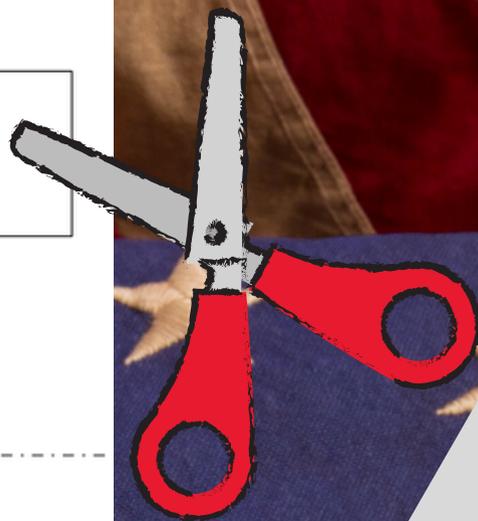
Also in black and white

Students will also test their knowledge of these new words and symbols with a cut and paste activity on day 5.



Abraham Lincoln

Jefferson Davis



General Grant

General Lee



General Grant ending the Civil War

of the Union during the Civil War

Made up of 23 northern states

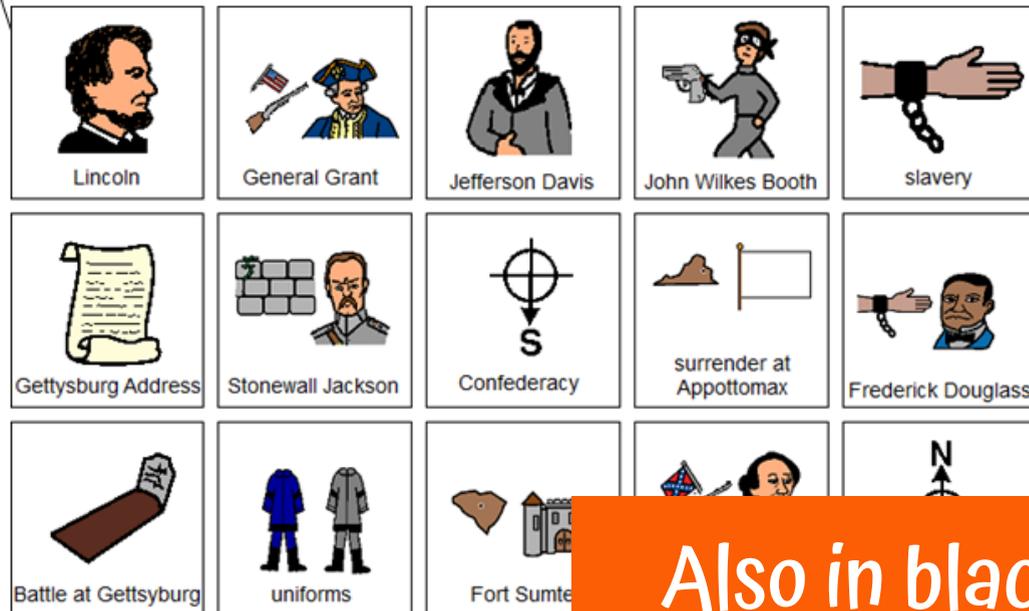
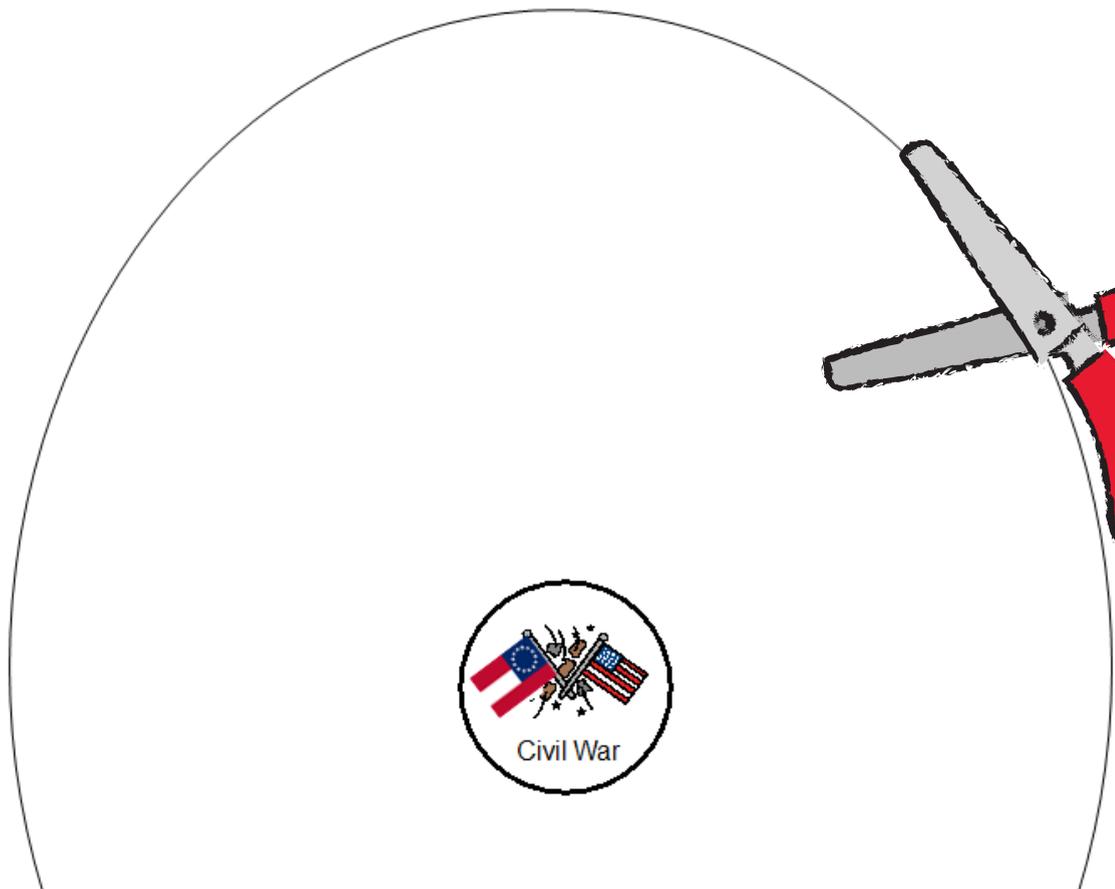
Speech given by Lincoln talking about the importance of the Civil War

Freed slave who convinced Lincoln to let African American men fight in the war

Leader of the Union Army during the

- You have **2 choices**:
1. Students match the picture to the definition (easier).
 2. Students match the definition to the picture (harder).

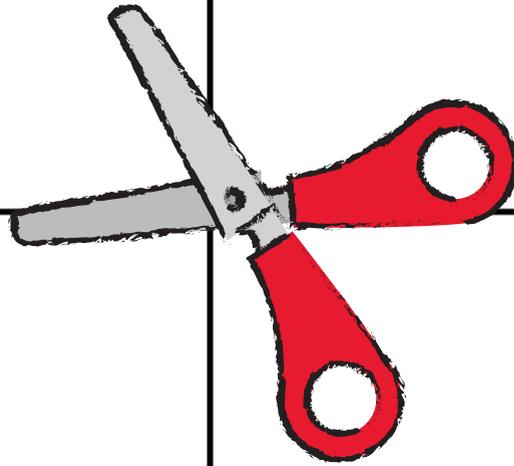
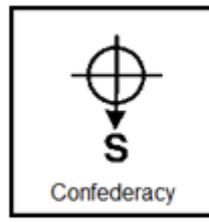
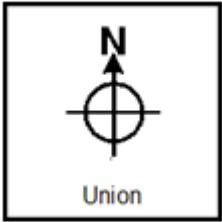
Also in black and white



Also in black and white

This unit contains 1 circle map. Circle maps are a great way to get the "big picture" of a topic. There are **2 versions**:

1. Errorless option with only correct answers
2. Wrong answers mixed in that students will have to set aside.



wanted slavery

gray uniform

Stonewall Jackson

smaller army

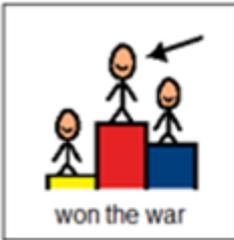
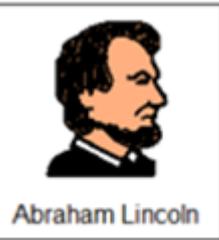
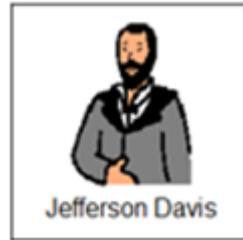


blue uniform

General Grant

Frederick Douglass

Northern States



Jefferson Davis

Abraham Lincoln

won the war

big army

Southern States

This unit contains a sorting activity. Students sort important differences and characteristics of the Union and the Confederacy.

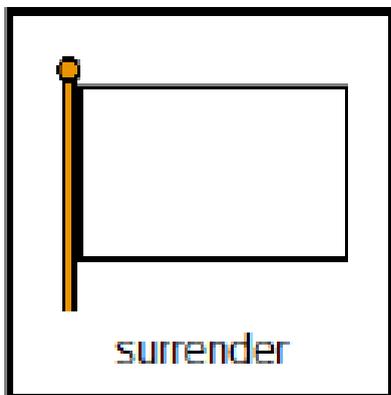
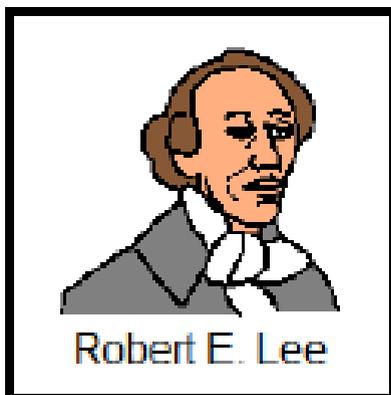
There are suggestions for differentiation included.

Also in black and white



April 9, 1865

General Robert E. Lee
surrenders at
Appomattox



This unit contains 4 large
timeline cards so your
students can create a
human timeline.

All the directions on how
to do this great group
activity is included!!

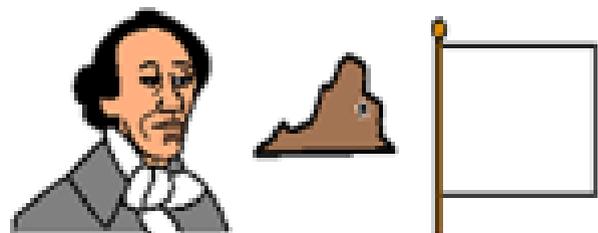
April 12, 1861

November 19, 1863

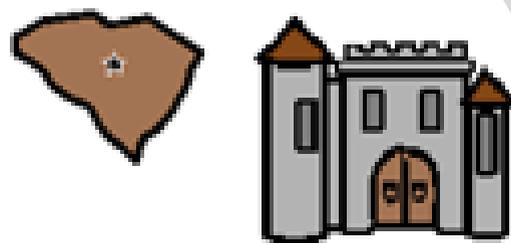


April 9, 1865

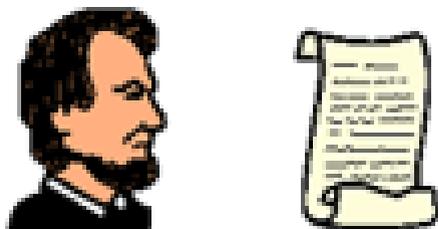
April 14, 1865



General Lee surrenders at Appomattox



War begins at Fort Sumter



Lincoln gives the Gettysburg Address



Also in black and white

There is a cut and paste timeline students can assemble in this unit that go along with the timeline cards.

Answer key included.

**12 pg Review
booklet**

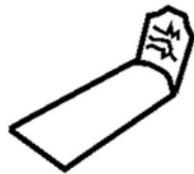


The Civil
War

The Civil War took
place between

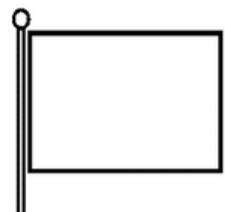
and

Symbols to cut out and put in the story



18

1861



Abraham Lincoln was
the president of the
Union during the Civil
War.

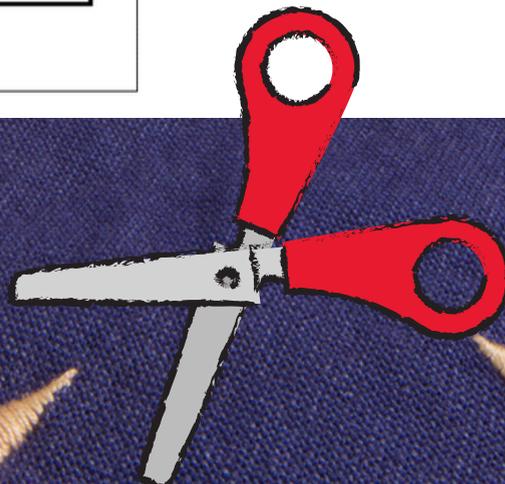
2

Jefferson Davis was the
president of the
Confederacy during the
Civil War.

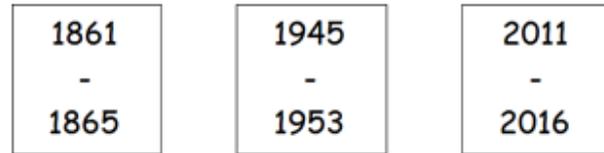
3

There was so much
information in this unit. I
wanted a way for kids to
take with them
(physically) a summary of
what they learned.

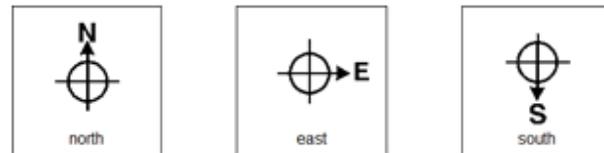
Plus it is a great review!!



1. When did the Civil War occur?



2. The Civil War was between the:



3. Who was the President of the Union or the North?



4. Who was the President of the Confederacy or the South?



5. What did the South want to keep legal?



Also in black and white

FINALLY the assessment!! There are 3 versions. This version has 10 questions with 3 picture choices for each question.

Answer key included.

Print onto cardstock or mount on index cards. Cut pictures apart and show student answer choices for each question.

Q 7



Lincoln



Frederick Douglass



General Lee

Q 8



Fort Sumter



Gettysburg



With this version, you cut out the answer choices and glue them on index cards. Ask the student the question, and they point to the correct answer.

Also in black and white

1. When did the Civil War occur?
 - A. 1861-1865
 - B. 1945-1953
 - C. 2011-2016
2. The Civil War was between the:
 - A. North
 - B. East
 - C. South
3. Who was the President of the Union or the North?
 - A. General Grant
 - B. Frederick Douglass
 - C. Abraham Lincoln
4. Who was the President of the Confederacy or the South?
 - A. General Grant
 - B. Jefferson Davis
 - C. Abraham Lincoln
5. What did the South want to keep legal?
 - A. Alcohol
 - B. Smoking
 - C. Slavery
6. Who was the General of the Union Army?
 - A. Abraham Lincoln
 - B. General Grant
 - C. Stonewall Jackson

This is your traditional multiple choice version. It can also be used as a recording sheet if your students are using the version with index cards.



CLICK HERE
to see the
digital
activities

There are digital versions for most of the activities in this unit. This is not the complete resource, but has many of the components.



I realize there will be some students out there unable to do cutting activities. I have a blog post with ways to complete all of these activities without a pair of scissors!!

[Click Here to read more!!](#)



One last note. I have come to learn that what we think of as the Confederate flag, was not the official flag of the Confederate states. Even though I know this may be confusing to students and even other teachers, I have switched out the incorrect flag with this one, called the Stars and Bars flag. I feel like this is an important misconception we need to correct.