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**Lesson Title:** Civil War Battles

**Suggested Grade Level:** 8

**Estimated Lesson Time:**

120 minutes (two class periods)

**Abstract/Summary:**

This lesson serves to dwell deeper into the actual battles of the civil war. The key battles of the civil war will be presented in chronological order. The students will understand the greater significance of each battle.

**Student Prior Knowledge:**

A previous lesson was done as an overview to the Civil War. The students know the key players, and reasons behind the start of the war. Previous knowledge/ experience with presentation technology such as prezi, powerpoint, tour builder, and timelines.

**Standards:**

[SS.8.A.5.6](http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewStandard/Preview/3300) Compare significant Civil War battles and events and their effects on civilian populations.

[SS.8.A.1.6](http://www.cpalms.org/Public/PreviewStandard/Preview/3252) Compare interpretations of key events and issues throughout American History.

<[Search here for state standards](http://www.cpalms.org/Public/search/Standard)>

**Goals:**

Students will understand the significance of each important civil war battle. Not only the significance to the civil war but also to American history as a whole. The students will be able to explain key figures and actions of the battles.

**Learning Objectives or “I can statements”:**

At the end of this lesson you will be able to: develop a presentation that shows the greater significance of the battle. (synthesis level)

At the end of this lesson you will be able to: summarize the most important civil war battles, and place the battles in chronological order. (comprehension level)

**Resources:** http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/timeline/death/

**Procedures:**

**1)** Students will take notes as the teacher presents a timeline of the most important battles from the civil war. The presentation does not go into too much detail as the students will later do that research on their own. The presentation serves as an introduction to the battles. The purpose of the presentation is to provoke thought and get students thinking about how the battles relate to the big picture.

Timeline link: http://timeglider.com/timeline/f52be8023479a304

**2)** The students are then divided into groups. There are 10 significant battles so assuming a class of 30 there will be 10 groups of 3. Each group is assigned a battle. They are then instructed to create a presentation on the battle. Each group can choose whatever presentation technology they think fits best. The presentation should tell us when, where, why, and how. It should also explain why this battle is significant and what role it played in the civil war and US history in general.

**3)** The students will take the remaining class time to research and create the presentation. During this time the teacher will walk around making sure the students remain on task. The teacher will help the students to create a presentation that does not strictly summarize but that analyzes the battle as the part of a whole.

**4)** The next day each group will present their battle presentation to the class. Inform the students that there will be a short quiz after each group presents to ensure they were paying attention.

Link to rubric for presentation: http://www.rcampus.com/rubricshowc.cfm?code=MX56995&sp=yes

**5)** Use an online quiz system such as Kahoot to ensure the students were paying attention during your presentation the previous day and each group’s presentation. The quiz should not be too difficult as it is not the main form of assessment. This quiz can serve as an exit task.

**Assessment:** The group presentation will be the main bulk of the graded assessment. Have each student present a section that way you can grade each student separately. An overall group grade and an individual grade will be averaged. The quiz will be graded but not weighted as highly as the presentation.

**Extensions and Adaptations:**

For an ESL student, the quiz using Kahoot can be changed to several different languages. The timeline can also be printed and given to the student.

For a student with ADHD the timeline can be printed. The student may be paired with a buddy to help them present, instead of doing it all on their own.

**Civil War Battles Group Presentation**

Purpose: To create a presentation that relates your group’s battle to the civil war and US history as a whole.

Guidelines: Your group is to create a presentation using a presentation technology we have previously discussed such as prezi, or timelines. The presentation should cover the who, what, when, where, why and how of the battle. But most importantly your presentation should explain to the class why this battle is significant to the civil war and US history as a whole. I want your group to analyze the events of the battle along with the knowledge we previously learned to create a plausible reason as to why this battle is significant. (I will choose your groups)

Presentation: Each member of the group will have to present part of the presentation. Your grade will include a group grade and an individual grade that will be averaged together. The total presentation should be about 6 minutes in length, which means each member has 2 minutes. I do not expect your presentation to be flawless, this is not a speech class. With that said I expect you to come to class prepared. Practice your part before you come to class, do not simply read from a script.

Battles: I will assign each group a battle.

Battle of Fort Sumter

Battle of Appomattax

First Battle of Bull Run

Second Battle of Bull Run

Battle of Shiloh

Battle of Gettysburg

Battle of Antietam

Battle of Ball’s Bluff

Siege of Yorktown

The 7 days battle

Reminder: There will be a short quiz given after all the groups have presented. The quiz will cover the basics of the battles just to insure you were paying attention.

Civil War Battles Quiz

1. Following the seccesion of 7 southern states, this battle started the American civil war.
2. Battle of Bull Run
3. Battle of Fort Sumter
4. Siege of Yorktown
5. Battle of Shiloh
6. Who was in charge of the Confederate Army and surrendered to the U.S Army general Ulysses S. Grant at the Battle of Appomattax?
7. Robert E. Lee
8. Jefferson Davis
9. Samuel Cooper
10. John S. Mosby
11. The First Battle of Bull Run is also known as?
12. Battle of Ball’s Bluff
13. Second Battle of Bull Run
14. Battle of First Manassas
15. Battle of Fort Henry
16. This two-day battle was the bloodiest battle in American history at its time, with 23,000 casualties.
17. Battle of New Orleans
18. First Battle of Bull Run
19. Second Battle of Bull Run
20. Battle of Shiloh
21. What is the significance of the battle of Appomattox?
22. Lee’s army was completely encircled by Union troops
23. The Confederates retreated across the Appomattox River
24. Ulysses S. Grant, of the union, successfully destroyed Lees army
25. Lee surrendured to Grant, although a peace treaty was never signed.

Link to Kahoot quiz: <https://play.kahoot.it/#/k/564ec424-b06c-406c-9a10-c8b94c27d376>

In the lesson plan it says to use Kahoot but the technology is not always available to everyone. Just incase I provided a paper form with the correct answers in blue.