

Lesson Title: Soldier Life During Civil War Lesson 2
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American History
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Teaching Traditional American History Program

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<http://www.chillhistoryproject.com/>

Lesson Overview:

- The life of a soldier during the Civil War was full of hardships. Both sides, the Union and the Confederate, had their share of problems.
- Included in this lesson is a recipe for Hardtack and Southern Johnnie Cake.

Essential Question:

- What would make you become a soldier under these conditions?

Objectives:

- Evaluate the conditions of the Union and Confederate soldiers.

Assessment:

On this website there are ten questions that you can ask your class as an assessment of this lesson. They can get on the Internet and take the quiz and it is atomically graded for you. This would be a fun activity for them to finish this lesson.

http://www.funtrivia.com/quizzes/history/civil_war/civil_war_figures.html

Materials:

Listed in the references and in the teacher input. You will need to have Internet access.

Class Time:

One class period

Teacher Input:

<http://www.nps.gov/archive/gett/soldierlife/cwarmy.html>

All information is found on this website for teacher input.

Activities:

Depending on the amount of time you have – you could make the Hardtack and Southern Johnnie Cakes for your class to try. If you are on Block scheduling your students could make the recipes at school. Share the recipes with your students they may want to make some for their family.

Questions for review:

- How were the conditions of the Union and Confederate soldiers similar?
 - *All endured hunger, dirty living conditions, disease, poor medical treatment, sickness, inadequate clothing, poor personal hygiene, lice and fleas*
- What caused the soldiers to have diseases?
 - *Unsanitary conditions, contaminated water, spoiled food, poor diet daily, no good protection against the cold and rain and insects*

Closure:

- What kind of hardships do you think our soldiers today have to endure over in Iraq? Explain your answer.

Extension:

- The students could write a letter home describing their conditions and should state if they are a Union or Confederate soldier.
- What if our country were to have a Civil War again would you volunteer to protect our country? How would it make you feel if a family member were to be on the other side? Would you be willing to fight against them? What kind of conditions do you think your camp would be in? Now take out a sheet of paper and write down a response to these questions on your feelings and what you might recommend for our country if this situation came about again?

References:

<http://www.nps.gov/archive/gett/soldierlife/cwarmy.htm>

http://www.funtrivia.com/quizzes/history/civil_war/civil_war_figures.html

John Hinde Curteich, American Civil War 1861-1865 Life of the Common Soldier, Designed and Printed in the U.S.A., 710PA-35, Recipes from this book.

Graphics:

Recipes included.

Recipes

Hardtack

2 cups of flour
1-cup water
1 tablespoon of Crisco or vegetable fat (lard)
6 pinches of salt

Bake for 30 minutes at 400 degrees.
Remove from oven, cut dough into 3-inch squares and punch four rows of holes into the dough. Turn dough over, return to the oven and bake another 30 minutes.

Southern Johnnie Cake

2 cups of cornmeal
2/3 cup of milk
2 tablespoons vegetable oil (lard)
2 teaspoons baking soda
½ teaspoon of salt

Mix ingredients into a stiff batter and form eight biscuit-sized “dodgers”. Bake on a lightly greased sheet at 350 degrees for twenty to twenty-five minutes or until brown.

Or spoon the batter in hot cooking oil in a frying pan over a low flame.

Optional: spread with a little butter or molasses, and you have a real southern treat!