Virtual Student Programs & Tours

The American Civil War Museum currently offers the following virtual programs. All programs can be adapted for youth in grades 4-12.

Discover the complexities and legacies of the Civil War through interactive virtual programs where museum educators facilitate experiences rich in primary source exploration and inquiry-based historical thinking exercises. These programs supplement current Virginia SOLs and Common Core standards.

Our offerings continue to evolve, and we welcome opportunities to tailor programs to suit your students’ needs. Ask us about having any of our general programs tailored to your class or about designing a program just for you.

Virtual Classroom Programs

Artifact Investigation
What is an artifact, and what can it tell us about the people who used it? This program invites students to investigate artifacts relating to diverse people who lived during the Civil War and to explore their lives through their possessions. Discover a variety of true stories from the Civil War from a different point of view.

Length: 30-45 minutes
Standards: VS.7, USI.9, USI.1, CE.1, VS.1, USII.1

Medicine in the Civil War
Why did more soldiers die in hospitals than in battle? How does modern medical technology compare to that of the Civil War? Despite the terrible challenges facing field surgeons and nurses, there were impressive advancements in military medicine during the War. Delve into some of these advancements as well as the reasons behind the striking death toll.

Length: 30-45 minutes
Standards: USI.9, VUS.7, USI.1, USII.1, CE.1
Civil War Geography
How did geography impact the Civil War? Where were major battles, what were their outcomes, and why were there more battles in some locations than others? How did the location of major cities influence military strategy? Explore the geographic features, including rivers, mountains, regions, cities, and battle sites and how they can help us answer questions about the War. Program can focus on either United States or Virginia geography.
Length: 30-45 minutes
Standards: VS.1, VS.2, VS.7, VS.4, USI.1, USI.2, USI.9, USII.1, VUS.7

The Civil War Soldier: Boredom, Blisters, and Bullets
What was the daily life of Civil War soldiers like? Was living in camp any safer than fighting on the battlefield? Soldiers spent the majority of their time not fighting in battles but living in camp or making long treks across the South. Many men were away from home for the first time, adjusting to life with little food and lots of company. Join us to discuss and experience some of what filled a soldier’s day, from recruitment to drill practice.
Length: 30-45 minutes
Standards: USI.9, VUS.7, USI.1

Seizing Freedom
What does it mean to be free? What do you sacrifice in the pursuit of freedom? While famous African Americans like Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman led the movement to end slavery, countless others seized freedom for themselves during the Civil War. Encounter the stories of African American people – both enslaved and free – who embarked on a journey to freedom or worked in other ways to end slavery during an incredibly dangerous time in American history.
Length: 30-45 minutes
Standards: VUS.7, USII.1, USII.3

Reconstruction
What did the Reconstruction Era following the Civil War look like? Did Reconstruction fail or was it abandoned? In the immediate aftermath of the War, the country grappled with defining the rights of African Americans and reintegrating the states that had seceded. Explore the successes and legacies of this era, from its promising beginnings and constitutional amendments, to its struggles on the ground and official end in 1877.
Length: 30-45 minutes
Standards: VUS.7, USII.1, USII.3, USII.4, VS.8
How Shall We Remember?
How did different people choose to remember the Civil War? How did they choose to mark the occasion? How did tensions in the aftermath of the War affect how people memorialized it? As early as 1865, people began asking themselves how to remember those who had sacrificed their lives during the War. Discover the different ways that memory of the War was shaped and how its implications continue to shape how we remember even today.

Length: 30-45 minutes
Standards: VUS.7, USII.1, USII.3, USII.4, VS.8

Virtual Walk Through Tours

“A People's Contest” Exhibit Tour
When confronted by the reality of war, what choices did people make? How did life change for all Americans in the aftermath? Join us Live on your virtual platform as we walk through the war in our new permanent exhibit, A People’s Contest: Struggles for Nation and Freedom in Civil War America and discover stories from diverse Americans struggling through the challenging war years told through colorized images and unique artifacts.

Length: 45-60 minutes
Standards: USI.9, VUS.7, USII.3, USI.1, CE.I, USII.1, VS.1, VS.7, VS.8

Tredegar History Tour
What is the significance of the Tredegar Iron Works in the Civil War? The Tredegar Iron Works was the most important industrial center of the Confederacy. In peacetime, it supplied the vast expansion of the railroad industry; in war, it produced the largest number of cannon in the Confederacy. Join us Live on your virtual platform as we explore the historic buildings at our Tredegar museum site, the vital role of the iron works, and the diverse people who worked there.

Length: 45-60 minutes
Standards: VS.7, VUS.7, USI.9, VS.1, VS.2, USI.1

White House of the Confederacy Tour
Journey Live on your virtual platform through the house that served as home to Confederate president Jefferson Davis during the Civil War, restored to what it looked like during Davis’s stay. Who else lived in, worked in, or visited the home during the War? What can their stories tell us about life at a time when Americans of all walks of life were experiencing immense heartache and suffering while maintaining hope for the future?

Length: 45-60 minutes
Standards: VUS.7, USI.9, VS.7, VS.1, USI.1, USII.1, CE.I
*Pricing:

- **Rates for the first virtual program are $75. All subsequent programs are $50.**
- **Programming depends on availability.** Reservations must be booked at least two weeks in advance. Reservations of fewer than two weeks in advance are reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- **Free admission and programming** for Virginia Public Schools until June 2021, at ACWM Richmond and Appomattox.

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