

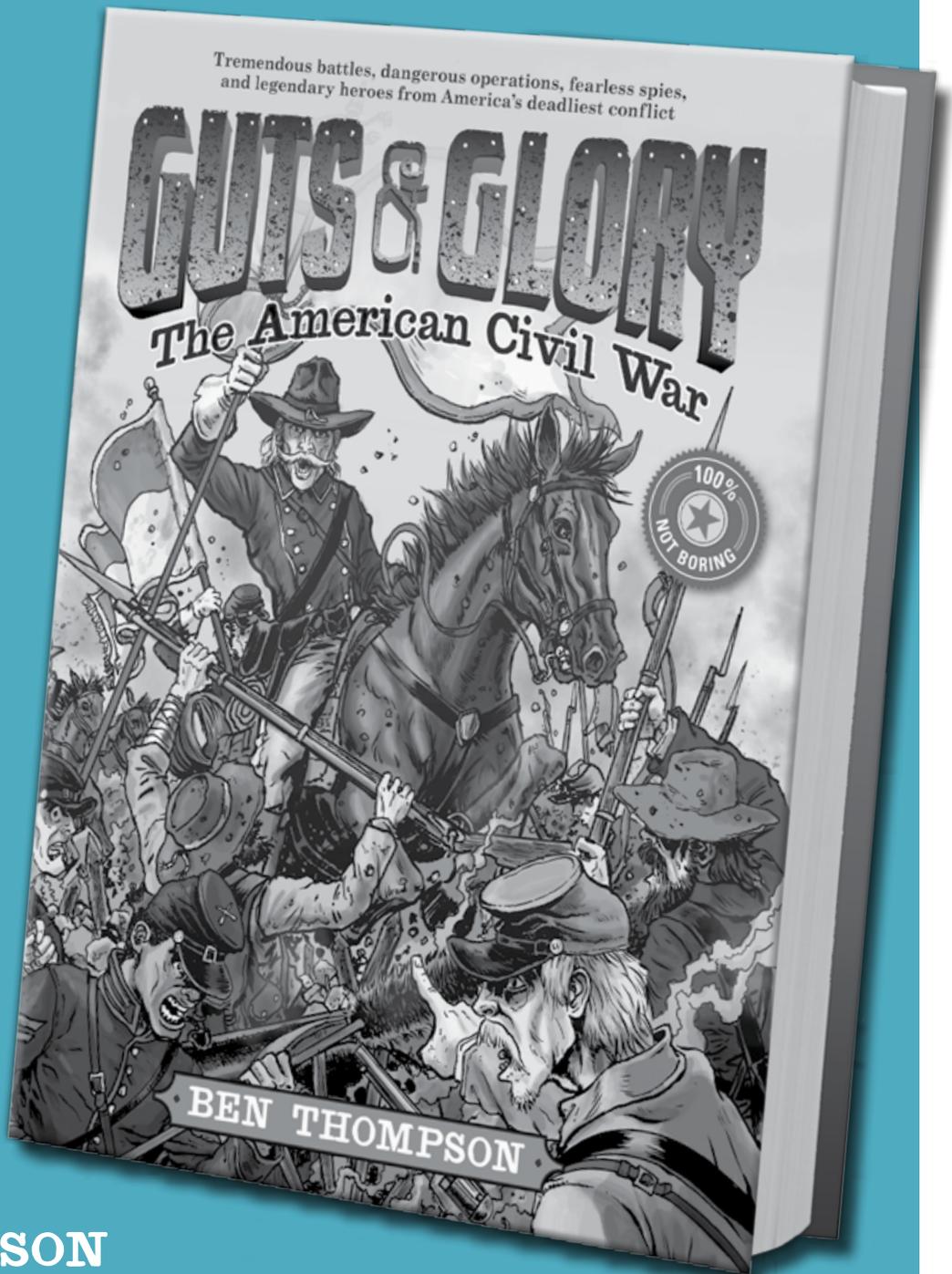
# GUTS & GLORY

## The American Civil War

### Curriculum connections

❖ Social Studies

Ages: 8 - 12



BY  
BEN THOMPSON

### COMMON CORE CONNECTIONS:

Guts and Glory is appropriate for ages 8-14 as a supplemental history and English text. The book is engaging and written in a style that even kids who supposedly dislike history will find themselves repeating stories from within these pages. It is also an excellent example of a nonfiction mentor text researched through dozens (if not hundreds) of primary sources. The Common Core State Standards presented here are English/Language Arts examples from the sixth grade; teachers should visit the Common Core Standards website ([corestandards.org](http://corestandards.org)) to apply their own grade-level equivalents. The subheadings and numerical references will help users easily locate the coordinating standards for specific grade levels.

#### Literacy in History/social studies:

**RH.6-8.1** Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.

**RH.6-8.2** Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source, distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.

**RH.6-8.4** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.

#### English Language arts:

##### Reading Informational text:

**RI.6.2** Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

**RI.6.5** Analyze how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas.

**RI.6.8** Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.

#### INTRODUCTION:

Explain how slavery served as the ultimate example of the division of the country.

What two conclusions can you draw from the charts in the introduction?

Fill out the following chart after reading the introduction to *Guts & Glory: The American Civil War*

	Advantages	Disadvantages
North		
South		

### AUTHOR'S NOTE:

Why is the Civil War “in his blood?” What point of view will he attempt in the book? How is the book organized?

### CHAPTER 1:

1. As you read about the major battles First Blood summarized in the book, create a chart similar to the one below to summarize key information:

Chapter:	
Name of Battle:	
Date & Location	
Commanders:	
Key Moments:	
Outcome:	

2. What was the brilliant plan of attack the Union tried? Why didn't it work? Describe the men of the 1st Louisiana Special Battalion. Explain how Stonewall Jackson got his awesome nickname.
3. How did Rose O'Neal Greehow operate as a Southern spy?
4. Why are Civil War battle names so confusing?
5. List three facts that are most important to know from the Mexican-American War.
6. After reading pages 24-26, explain why the Civil War became “the deadliest war in American history.”

### CHAPTER 2: CLASH OF THE IRONCLADS

1. Describe the *Merrimack* after the Confederates spruced her up. Summarize her first day in battle.

2. Why was the battle between the first ironclads “indecisive?” In the end, what happened to the *Virginia*?
3. List the major components of General Scott's Anaconda plan to strangle the South.
4. What is the significance of the Mason-Dixon Line? How did it originate?

### CHAPTER 3: SHILOH

1. Summarize the early career of Albert Sidney Johnston.
2. Describe his strategy against Grant.
3. Why does Johnston's injury change the course of the battle?
4. Describe why and how the Union forces are ultimately able to succeed. Why is this battle so significant?

Read pages 51-52 and paraphrase (put into your own words) the key information from these sidebar notes:

Topic:	Key information:
Young Soldiers:	
Rebel Yell:	
Extra, Extra!	

Read pages 53-56 and discover the cause of each of these other civil conflicts in history:

Civil Conflict:	Dates:	Cause:
Fall of the Roman Republic:		
Three Kingdoms of China:		
Warring States of Japan:		
English Civil War:		
Russian Revolution:		
Spanish Civil War:		

### CHAPTER 4: BELLE BOYD

1. Explain why Belle Boyd decided to get involved with the war.
2. What strategies did she use to get important information?
3. Specifically, what information did she get that aided Jackson in his campaign in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia?

Read pages 66-69 and summarize these important women's roles in the Civil War:

Name:	Side:	Summary of role:	Most interesting fact:
Loretta Janeta Velazquez	Confederate	Arkansas Lieutenant who raised a battalion of soldiers, discovered as a female after being wounded. Then, served as a spy.	Wounded twice before discovery that she was a woman.
Nancy Hart Douglas			
Kady Brownell			
Jennie Hodgers			
Sarah Edmonds			
Charlotte Hope			

## CHAPTER 5: THE GREAT LOCOMOTIVE CHASE

1. Explain how Wilson and Wood try to sabotage the rail line between Chattanooga and Atlanta. Why was this an important strategic move for the north?
2. Who foiled their plan? How did he manage to do so? Which part of this story was your favorite? Why?
3. Describe Southern prison life. Why did Wilson and Wood attempt to escape? Were they successful or not? How, exactly?
4. What did they receive from Lincoln? Do you think they deserved it or not?

### POW

Explain why 12%-15% of prisoners died while held in prison during the Civil War.

List three important facts you learned from reading/studying the charts and information on pages 80-81 concerning Unit Organization during the war:

## CHAPTER 6: ROBERT E. LEE IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA

1. Compare and contrast the readiness for battle of each side during the spring and summer of 1862 in Northern Virginia. Who should have been able to soundly defeat the other by just studying the facts?
2. How would you describe the leadership of George B. McClellan?
3. What bold (and possibly suicidal) moves did General Robert E. Lee make? Why did these work?
4. Describe the contributions of these Confederate leaders in the battles:
 

Joseph Johnston	Jeb Stuart
Stonewall Jackson	
5. Now, list the mistakes that these leaders made for the Union:
 

George McClellan	John Pope
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### Camp Life

Describe life as a soldier in camp in one word. Be prepared to defend your choice with evidence directly from the text.

Or: write a letter home as if you are a Civil War soldier describing daily life in your unit.

## CHAPTER 7: ANTIETAM

1. Explain why the South was on the offensive? What did they hope to prove and gain?
2. Why were the Southern states key to Europe?
3. How did Robert E. Lee let his battle plans slip into the hands of his enemy, McClellan?
4. What was McClellan's biggest weakness as a general? What advantage did he have going into battle toward South Mountain?
5. Despite being outnumbered twelve to one, how did General D. H. Hill's division stand their ground?
6. McClellan outnumbered Lee's forces by 57,000 men but waited to attack. What did this give Lee time to do?
7. Describe the first assault between Fighting Joe Hooker's corps and John Bell Hood's Texans. How did Hood's men both win and lose?
8. Explain how after holding the line, D. H. Hill's men's place became known as Bloody Lane.
9. What's remarkable about the story of John Brown Gordon in this battle?
10. Explain the state of the Confederate army at this point. How are they vulnerable? Why doesn't McClellan exploit it?
11. Describe Union General Ambrose E. Burnside's fumble on the right flank. What did he seem obsessed with accomplishing? How did Toombs take advantage of this?
12. What did Burnside promise to his two harshest fighting units? What was the result?
13. What opportunity did Burnside miss after this offensive? Instead, what did he spend time doing?

14. How did Confederate Ambrose Powell Hill's men manage to cut a hole in Burnside's men?
15. What was the result of McClellan's bungling of the attack? Who was named commander?
16. The Battle of Antietam is known for what gruesome fact? Why was it considered a "draw?" How did it decide Europe's involvement in the war, too?

### Photographic Memory

How do you think the use of photography changed the perception of war for civilians and family members at home? Do you think it was better or worse to suddenly be aware of all the gruesome details about the war?

### Angel of the Battlefield

Explain how Clara Barton got this nickname. What else is she most famous for?

### West Point

How do you think men knowing each other before the war proved important to events that unfolded during it?

## CHAPTER 8: CHANCELLORSVILLE

1. Describe the quirky and cruel Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson.
2. Summarize his accomplishments up to this point in the war.
3. Explain why Lincoln finally fired Burnside.
4. Compare how prepared the Union troops were when Fighting Joe Hooker took over the command compared to their Southern counterparts.
5. List the parts of Hooker's "Perfect Plan."
6. What seemingly insane choices does Robert E. Lee use to thwart the plan?
7. How did Jackson's men create chaos on the extreme flank of the Union Army?
8. What caused Jackson's personal undoing?
9. What did Jeb Stuart, taking over for Jackson, do to Hooker's troops?

10. John Sedgwick, leading only 23,000 troops, ordered his men to do what exactly? How did it force Lee into action?
11. Why is Chancellorsville studied in military academies around the world? What do you think are the key elements of this study?
12. What was the ultimate result of this episode in the war?

### The Biggest Killer

What diseases caused more than 60% of the fatalities in the war? What factors contributed to these ghastly numbers?

### The Draft

Describe what happened when the Federal government instituted a draft in 1863. Why do you think people were so incited by it? Does the draft still exist today?

## CHAPTER 9: HORSE AND STEEL

1. Describe the chaos when the soldiers of the First Maine Cavalry faced off with the Sixth Virginia Cavalry in Culpepper County, Virginia.
2. Why was the First Maine Cavalry an "unlikely group of horsemen?"
3. How did Jeb Stuart's cavalry review (to impress the women of Culpepper) prove an unwise move?
4. Despite the loss of their #2 leader, Benjamin "Grimes" Davis, what were his men able to do?
5. Then, how did the Sixth Pennsylvania Cavalry fare against the unlikeable confederate commander known as Grumble Jones?
6. Hooker tried to surprise Jeb Stuart from the rear. How did one man, John Carter, stall Hooker's men?
7. Why is the Battle for Fleetwood Hill renowned in history? What technology changed military tactics?
8. In the end, what was the outcome of the battle? Despite the Federal retreat, what had they proven?

### Civil War Cuisine

What did soldiers eat during the war? Why was it less appealing than it sounds?

### Oh, Behave

What techniques and punishments were used to make the men behave while serving? Which would you like to have seen?

### Lookouts

Explain what a picket did for their unit and why they were so essential for survival. Is this a job that you would like to be assigned?

## CHAPTER 10: GETTYSBURG

1. What was Lee's original plan?
2. How did one of his own men, Jeb Stuart, fail him?
3. How many troops ended up being called into the unexpected face-off in Gettysburg?
4. Richard "Old Baldy" Ewell replaced which general for the South? How did he fail Lee twice before the battle truly began?
5. What Union general also failed to take direct orders? How did his men pay for that mistake?
6. Who was Joshua Chamberlain? How did his men hold the fate of the outcome of the battle and even the war? How did they survive the onslaught?
7. Explain Lee's devastating mistake with Pickett's charge. How did it turn the tide of the war? Find evidence of Lee's feelings about it.

### Age Is Just a Number

Explain the meaning of the title of this section

### Survivor

List the three most interesting facts about the former schoolteacher discussed in this section.

### Deadliest Brigade

What made these men famous during the war and after its end?

### Joseph Castro

Why did he receive the Medal of Honor? What do you think the effect was when one side captured the flag of the other?

### Gettysburg Address

In fact, this famous speech is a eulogy, not an address. What's the difference? Why do you think it has become one of the most famous speeches in American history? What are the elements of a truly excellent speech?

### Vicksburg

How did Grant take Vicksburg by surprise? Why was this location so key to both the North and South? How long did the rebels hold out there, cut off from supplies?

## CHAPTER 11: THE MAKING OF THE CONFEDERATE NAVY

1. Explain James Dunwoody Bulloch's role in building a Confederate navy. What resources was he given? How did he begin?
2. How many ships was he responsible for getting built for the Confederacy? Why did the Union have a difficult time trying to stop his work in England?
3. Besides ships, list his other activities that aided the Confederacy. Do you think he was a hero to their cause or not? Why?
4. Describe the awesome vessel with the code name of Number 290. How did it almost get impounded? Why wasn't Bulloch allowed to captain the ship himself?
5. What was the purpose of the ship? How did the captain of the newly christened *CSS Alabama*, Raphael Semmes, go about inflicting the most damage first?
6. Explain how he was able to exploit the established trade routes for food and gold to his advantage.
7. How did he elude capture when cornered in Venezuela? In France, at Cherbourg Harbor, how did the great ship finally meet its match?

8. What became of the Confederate pirate Semmes after the war?

### The Last Flag

Why did it take so long for this captain to lower his flag? Afterwards, what did he do with his ship?

## CHAPTER 12: THE FIFTY-FOURTH MASSACHUSETTS

1. Why was the Emancipation Proclamation a strategic move as well as a political one? What two advantages did it give Lincoln and the Union?
2. Compare and contrast how the Fifty-Fourth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment was treated compared to their white counterparts. Why was this so?
3. Why was Charleston, South Carolina, a key location to for the South's strategy?
4. Describe the first battle on James Island, South Carolina.
5. Identify the reasons that seizing Fort Wagner on Morris Island was a particularly difficult task. Why did Colonel Robert Gould Shaw volunteer his men?
6. What would become of the men and their leaders if they failed and were captured? How were they shouldering an important responsibility not just for the battle but as proof of their worthiness?
7. Describe the Fifty-Fourth's attack on the fort. What was the fate of Colonel Robert Gould Shaw? How did Sergeant William H. Carney inspire his troops and many more? What was the price of this battle?
8. What honor did the Fifty-Fourth receive after the siege was complete after two months? Because of his service during this time, who was honored and how? Why was it significant?

### Robert Blake

How did he distinguish himself in battle? How many African Americans were honored for their service during the war?

### Follow the Flags

Describe the different types of flags carried by a regiment. How were they morale boosters and also important to survival? What honor and humiliations were associated with these flags?

### Frederick Douglass

Who was this historical figure? What were his biggest contributions to American history?

### The Thirteenth Amendment

Why weren't all slaves freed by the Emancipation Proclamation? When and how did all become free? What was the most shocking statistic revealed in this section to you? Why?

### Harriet Tubman

Summarize the most important information from this section. What should someone always remember about Harriet Tubman?



## CHAPTER 13: MORGAN'S RAID

1. Describe the scene in Salem, Indiana, as John Hunt Morgan's raiders came through it.
2. What did the Confederate raiders want from the small town? How did they even get ransom money?
3. Describe the dashing "Confederate Thunderbolt" who led the raiders, and list the important details from his biographical information.
4. Paraphrase the information about Morgan's first three raids beginning in August 1862. How was his fourth raid different than the others?
5. Outline his favorite tactic in stealing supplies from the Union supply convoys. How did he also use the telegraph offices to his advantage?
6. Summarize the massive trouble he gave to the Federals (which also explains why they wanted him captured so badly).
7. After his escape from prison, he made a tactical error. What was it? How did his story finally end?

### Lizzie Compton

Summarize Lizzie Compton's story in one sentence.

### Sounds of the Civil War

Why was music an important component of the war? How was it a part of everyday life for a soldier and also during important battles?

### Cavalrymen of the War

Philip Kearny

How did Kearny prove that he wasn't just a spoiled rich kid? How did he inspire his troops (and prove McClellan a wimp simultaneously)?

Benjamin Grierson

What was his role during Grant's assault on Vicksburg? After the war, where did he serve?

Nathan Bedford Forrest

Describe how Forrest equipped himself for battle. When a punk junior officer tried to kill him, how did he handle it?

Bloody Bill Anderson

Which of the brutal acts described in this section do you think is the most disturbing? Why?

### The Confederate Thermopylae

1. Explain why the Confederates were thrilled when Napoleon III took over Mexico City.
2. How did Lincoln respond to the threat of European arms coming through the back door of Mexico with this opportunity?
3. What strategy did Nathaniel P. Banks believe was his best opportunity? Why?
4. Compare the Union forces and supplies with those that awaited them at Fort Griffin.
5. How did the training and discipline of Fort Griffin's commander, Richard Dowling, pay off in this battle?
6. Describe what happened to the *Sachem*. What did this do to the resolve of the *Arizona*?
7. How did two women help the resolve and morale of the men working the few guns left in Fort Griffin?
8. What happened to the next ship trying to make headway, the *Clifton*? What did that inspire the captain of the *Arizona* to do?
9. Summarize what these forty-two men accomplished in a mere hour and a half.
10. What honor did they receive?

### No More Napoleon

Explain what happened after the war in Mexico.



### The World in 1864

Summarize what was happening in the following places during 1864:

British Empire:	
Russian Empire:	
Prussia/Germany:	
Italy:	
South America:	
China:	
Japan:	

### CHAPTER 15: THE ROCK OF CHICKAMAUGA

1. List the epic highlights of George Henry Thomas's military career before the Civil War.
2. Why was the choice about who to fight for so difficult for Thomas? What was at stake on either side?
3. How did he prove his loyalty to the Union? Which battles made him particularly famous? Why?
4. Why did the South set the retaking of Chattanooga in their sights? What did they hope to prove?
5. Describe the assaults that George Henry Thomas's corps found themselves in the middle of.
6. Explain why things looked exceedingly grim for Thomas's corps after fresh troops from Virginia got off the train.
7. How did he get his men to close any breach that appeared? How many hours did they battle without sleep or reinforcements?

8. What nickname did he get for his heroic act? How else was he rewarded for his bravery?
9. How did Grant underestimate Thomas and his men? How did they show him what they were made of?
10. What evidence proves how the South felt about Thomas, even after the war?

### The Thirteen-Year-Old-Sergeant

List the most impressive things that one should know about Ohioan Johnny Clem.

### CHAPTER 16: UNION NURSE

1. What were conditions like for the unlucky wounded soldiers?
2. Why was Mary Edwards Walker turned down by recruiters? How did she get around their silly rules?
3. What highest honor was she awarded (and the only woman in our history ever to be so)?
4. How did she impress Burnside? What did it finally get her?

- Name the reasons why the Minié ball was so devastating to soldiers (and their surgeons).
- What types of injuries resulted in almost certain death?
- Outline the reasons and the process of three-quarters of all surgeries during the war.
- Why were conditions so barbaric?
- What happened to Mary Edwards Walker when she went into Georgia to help civilians and Confederate soldiers? What trade was she proud of?
- Infer why the Medal of Honor's rules were probably changed, stripping Dr. Walker of hers officially for 60 years. What did she think of it?

### Medal of Honor

What is it? How is it received? What do you think of the Feds revoking over 900 of them?

### Dog Tags

Why were they necessary? When did they become official?

### Battle Above the Clouds

How did this part of the battle earn its moniker? What fact made it famous?

## CHAPTER 17: GRANT VS. LEE

- List the five most important things to know about Ulysses S. Grant. Be prepared to defend your choices!
- What were the key moments in his service so far during the war?
- Detail the strategy Grant had planned to end the conflict once and for all.
- What does Grant do (unlike other Union generals before him) when Lee provides one of his famous counter-attacks?
- How did Grant's men react when he refused to give up the fight? What strategic tactic did he use to separate Lee from Richmond?

- Explain why the fighting on May 12, 1864 was particularly brutal.
- How did Grant finally have an advantage over Lee? Why did they have a stare-down for nine months?

### Bye Bye Burnside

What was Burnside's bright idea to undermine the Confederate trenches in Petersburg? How did it backfire? What result did it have for him as a leader?

### President Grant

What is ironic about the fact that Grant is pictured on the \$50 bill? Why was he not considered a fantastic president?

### Presidential Soldiers

Why do you think so many soldiers in the Civil War became president? Was it a sign of honor, valor and duty to have served in the war? What can you infer about the fact that all were from the Union?

### Arlington National Cemetery

Who established the cemetery? Why did he do so? How was it a bit of a poke in the eye to Lee?

## CHAPTER 18: MOBILE BAY

- Why was Farragut such an amazing Navy Admiral? Describe his rise through the ranks.
- Why was Mobile, Alabama, such a key port for the Confederacy? How was it defended?
- Farragut's plan to win included what arsenal, manpower, and ships?
- Why did the captain of the *Brooklyn* lose his nerve? What did Farragut do?
- List the key incidents in the battle for the harbor.

### The CSS Hunley

Why was it known as a "self-propelled coffin?" What was its one heroic moment in the war? Ultimately, what happened to the men who perished inside of it?

## CHAPTER 19: THE ELECTION OF 1864

1. What was the truth about Lincoln's political life during the time of the Civil War? How was he almost stopped from running for President again?
2. Describe Lincoln's rise from poverty.
3. Why were people frustrated with him as leader? Do you think modern Americans would tolerate any president who had to make these difficult decisions?
4. What decisions made him particularly unpopular with people? Which one would you disagree with most?
5. Who did many Democrats believe should be the next president? Why is this ironic? What was his platform?
6. Why was Fremont a formidable candidate for the Republican party?
7. Who was Major General William Tecumseh Sherman and why do people in the South still hate him, even today?
8. List the most important facts from Sherman's early life and career.
9. What was Sherman's strategy to bring the South to their knees once and for all? Who was his counterpart on the Confederate side?
10. Unlike Grant, how was Sherman's strategy different, recognizing the change in modern warfare? Why is a modern tank named after him?
11. Why do you think Davis replaced Johnston with the more aggressive John Bell Hood? What qualities is Hood remembered for?
12. How did Sherman take Atlanta? After taking the city, what did he do? How does this relate to how people still feel about him today?
13. Why did Lincoln receive so many votes from active soldiers? What do you think would've happened to the war if Lincoln had not been reelected?

### Sherman's Legacy

After the war, how did Sherman still serve the country? What inference can you draw about Johnston and Sherman's relationship?

### Jefferson Davis

Before the war, what had Davis been? Why was he unable to establish a functional, new government with elections for the South?

### Sherman's March

Why didn't Sherman worry about communication or supply lines as he marched from Atlanta to Savannah? What was the effect of this policy on the South? Which quote in this section do you think best represents him during this time? What Christmas present did he offer Lincoln?

## CHAPTER 20: THE END OF THE LINE

1. Explain why things are nearly impossible for Lee at this point.
2. What bold plan does he make for one last-ditch effort to win?
3. Who was Phillip Sheridan and what was his role in this last chapter of the war?
4. Describe the leader who took advantage of the gap in Saylor's Creek in Rice, Virginia. What was his impressive record so far in the war?
5. How brutal did this part of the conflict get? Why? Explain why Ewell's forces finally began surrendering.
6. Captain Thomas Ward Custer defied being seen as just a little brother. What had he done to prove himself? List his crazy-brave acts during this part of the conflict. What did all this earn him?
7. Why was April 6, 1865 known as "Black Thursday" to the Confederates?
8. What did Lee find when he finally made it near Appomattox? What were the terms of surrender?

### Custer's Last Stand

Describe how Custer's overconfidence would be his ultimate undoing.

### Final Surrender

What was unique about the last Confederate general to surrender? Explain why the Native Americans would choose to fight on the side of the Confederates.

### Davis Flees

Why was Davis trying to reach Texas?

### Saylor's versus Sailor's

What's confusing about the place where the final battle took place?

### General Order No.9

What type of writing is this? How would you describe its tone?



### CONCLUSION

1. How devastating was the sheer number of people lost during the conflict? What is the most shocking fact?
2. Explain how, in some ways, the Civil War actually helped America.

### PROJECTS

#### History:

Primary sources are documents that feature first-hand accounts and information of a time period, a person, or an event. In pairs, review the Bibliography (pages 301-308) and highlight any materials that would be considered a primary source. Also review the photographs, maps, and other documents within the book, and discuss whether they would be considered primary or secondary sources.

For an amazing reference in the use of primary documents, allow students to peruse the Library of Congress's repository of all things Civil War (including over 7,000 photographs!) <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/civwar/>

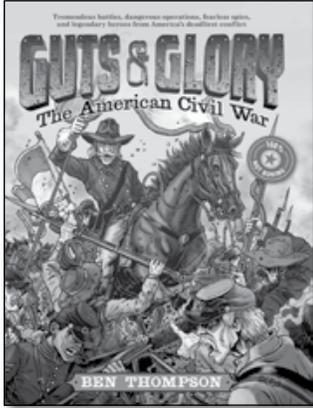
#### Drama:

Have students write a monologue (a speech given by a single character who addresses the audience directly, often onstage alone) from the viewpoint of one of the key players involved in the war. Before the performance, students should peer edit the piece and practice it several times.

#### Research:

Assign teams of two or three to one of the key players or battles from the war to research on their own. They must locate at least two primary documents (The Library of Congress is a great place to start: <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/themes/civil-war/>) and create a poster that summarizes the key information. Then, place these posters into a timeline for a hallway or classroom display.

### about the book



#### **GUTS & GLORY: THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR** by Ben Thompson

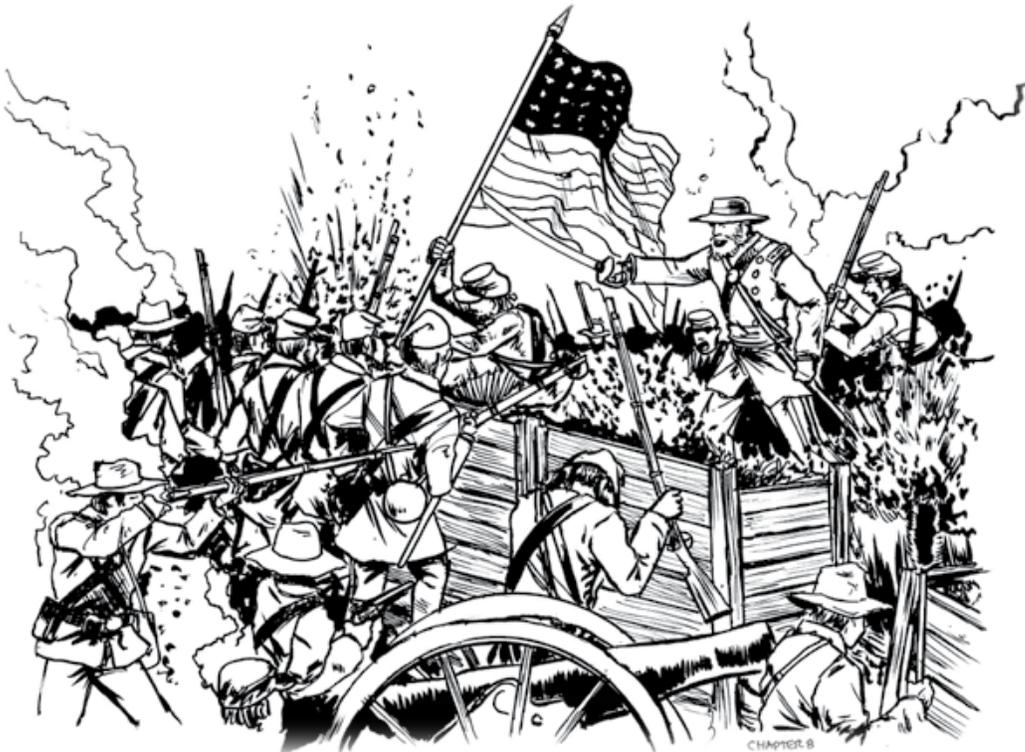
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*Tremendous battles, dangerous operations, fearless spies, and legendary heroes from America's deadliest conflict!*

From courageous cavalry rides deep into enemy territory to harrowing covert missions undertaken by spies and soldiers, the events of the American Civil War were filled with daring figures and amazing feats. This exhilarating overview covers the biggest battles as well as captivating lesser-known moments to entertain kids with unbelievable (and totally true) tales of one of America's most fascinating conflicts.

History buff, Civil War reenactor, and popular blogger Ben Thompson uses his extensive knowledge and vivid storytelling style to bring the Civil War to life in this first book in a thrilling new series featuring incredible people, events, and civilizations. Get ready to learn just how awesome history can be!



### about the author



Photo © Clay Thompson

Ben Thompson is the author of several books on military history and has written humorous history-related material for publications such as *Soldier of Fortune* and organizations like the American Mustache Institute. He is a 15-year veteran of Civil War reenacting and can occasionally beat the Star Wars Trilogy arcade game with one quarter. Ben invites you to visit his website at [gutsandgloryhistory.com](http://gutsandgloryhistory.com)



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