

Civil War 1864: Virtual Reality Experience Module Teaching Guide

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

What were some the experiences of soldiers during the American Civil War in 1864?

OVERVIEW

Experience Civil War warfare, as never before, with the American Battlefield Trust's virtual reality series and turn the experience into a learning moment. With immersive, digital storytelling you will navigate back in time as you navigate in 360 degrees how it may have looked, felt and sounded to be soldier in 1864. Then examine primary and secondary sources related to the virtual reality episodes to learn more.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal: Through experiences with Virtual Reality 360 experiences (VR), additional secondary sources, and primary sources, students will acquire new information about life as an American Civil War soldier and further their understanding of this experience in history.

Objectives:

- With secondary sources, students will note ideas or facts that are particularly interesting to them as well as any questions they have.
- Students will discuss orally at least one of their ideas, facts, or questions.
- Given primary source material students will study the material and complete a series of analysis questions.
- Given their completed work, primary, and secondary sources, students will describe, in writing or orally, at least three features of the experience of American Civil War soldiers.

ACTIVITIES

1. Use the [Lesson's PowerPoint](#) to explore the context and history; the PowerPoint introduces Essential Questions and lays foundational knowledge about the Virtual Experience.
2. Watch the [VR video set](#) together or individually. Or have students select at this time the segment they would like to study.
3. Share the [Worksheet](#) with the students.
4. Have the students decide which VR segment they would like to research:
 - a. [The Trench](#)
 - b. [The Attack](#)
 - c. [The Patrol](#)
 - d. [The Hospital](#)
5. Have the students fill out Part 1 of the Worksheet.

6. Secondary Sources (articles) and Primary Sources related to each segment are available on these Lesson Plan Pages.
 - a. [The Trench](#) Resources
 - b. [The Attack](#) Resources
 - c. [The Patrol](#) Resources
 - d. [The Hospital](#) Resources
7. Have the students fill out Part 2 and 3 of the Worksheet, using the Secondary Sources and Primary Sources
8. Invite the students to share their observations or conclusions verbally with the class for discussion.

STANDARDS

Please visit the [Module Page](#) and select the “Common Core and NCSS Standards for Social Studies” to view the details.

RESOURCES

Visit the Module Page to find all resources sorted by the video/VR segments. You’ll find everything mentioned or linked in this Teaching Guide and links to additional videos, articles, and primary sources.

Quick Links

- [PowerPoint](#)
- [VR Videos](#)
- Resource Pages
 - [The Trench](#)
 - [The Attack](#)
 - [The Patrol](#)
 - [The Hospital](#)
- [Worksheet](#)

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