



ISD Virtual Learning

8th Grade Social Studies

May 7, 2020



8th Grade Social Studies

Lesson: 34

Objective/Learning Target:

I can explain the contributions to the Civil War by African Americans.

Materials you will need for this lesson

During this lesson you will be asked to complete the activities listed on the right.

Please make sure you have a piece of paper and a pen/pencil to record your thinking as you navigate through the lesson.

1. Warm-Up
2. Activity
3. Practice
4. Reflection



Warm Up

In this lesson we will look at African American contributions to the Civil War. Before we begin answer these questions to get you thinking.

1. Which side (North or South) would African Americans help during the war?
2. Were all African Americans in the North free to participate in the war?



Warm Up

1. Which side (North or South) would African Americans help during the war?
2. Were all African Americans in the North free to participate in the war?

1. African Americans played major parts for both sides during the war. In the North they were soldiers on the battlefield fighting alongside other northern soldiers. In the South African American slaves were forced to help create weapons and other technology. Later in the war they were also forced to fight in the war itself.



Warm Up

1. Which side (North or South) would African Americans help during the war?
2. Were all African Americans in the North free to participate in the war?

2. Not during the entire war. In the beginning most African Americans were not allowed to be soldiers because Lincoln and other officials believed this may cause the border states to switch sides. Eventually African Americans were mostly free to join the North and formed their own regiments totalling about 180,00 soldiers.



Lesson Activity

Use the following resources to answer these questions on a sheet of paper:

1. When were freed African American men able to enlist in the army?
Why?
2. In what ways were African Americans still discriminated against?
Why did they continue to enlist?
3. By the end of the war, about how many African Americans had enlisted?
4. What other roles did African Americans play in the Civil War?



Lesson Activity- Resources

[Resource 1](#)

[Resource 2](#)

[Resource 3 \(video\)](#)



Lesson Activity- Answer Key

1. When were freed African American men able to enlist in the army? Why?
African Americans were able to list in 1862, following the passage of the Second Confiscation and Militia Act, which freed slaves who had masters in the Confederate Army, and Lincoln's signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

2. In what ways were African Americans still discriminated against? Why did they continue to enlist?

African Americans were paid much less than white soldiers. African American soldiers would also be treated much more harshly if captured by the Confederate Army.

3. By the end of the war, about how many African Americans had enlisted?
About 180,000 soldiers enlisted in the Civil War.

4. What other roles did African Americans play in the Civil War?

Blacks on both sides of the war served in relief roles, for example, working as nurses, cooks, and blacksmiths. Freed blacks, including Harriet Tubman, were also spies, scouts, and agents.



Practice

"State a Claim"

State a claim about African Americans' contributions to the Civil War

You claim should:

- X Explain what specific things African Americans did in the Civil War.
- x Be at least 5 sentences.
- X Contain correct spelling and grammar.
- x Be in R.A.C.E. format:
 - x Restate the question within your answer.
 - x Answer the question.
 - x Cite specific text to support your answer.
 - x Explain in your own words.



Reflection

Now that you have learned what roles African Americans played in the Civil war answer the following question:

How did African Americans affect the outcome of the Civil War and their future freedom?

