

Welcome!

Grade 2, Unit 7 The U.S. Civil War

Dear Family Member,

In this unit, students will be introduced to an important period in the history of the United States: the Civil War.

What's the story?

Students will learn about the **controversy over slavery** between the **North and the South**, which was the primary issue leading to the **U.S. Civil War**.

What will my student learn?

Students will learn about the **U.S. Civil War** and how the end of the war also meant the end of the evil **institution of slavery** in the United States. They will learn about the conflicting ideas about slavery during the founding of our country, and the motivations of many of those opposed to slavery, including those influenced by the **Great Awakenings**. They will also study men and women who were significant in the years leading up to the war and during the war itself, including **Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Abraham Lincoln, Julia Ward Howe, Robert E. Lee, Clara Barton**, and **Ulysses S. Grant**.

In this unit, students will write entries in a Civil War journal. They will have the opportunity to **write about** the various events and people they have been learning about who were associated with the Civil War.

Conversation Starters

Ask your student questions about the unit to promote discussion and continued learning:

1. What did it mean to be enslaved?
Follow up: Where was slavery practiced around the world?
2. What have you learned about the abolitionists?
Follow up: Who were some famous Abolitionists?
3. What differences were there between the North and the South before the Civil War?
Follow up: What were some of the similarities?
4. Tell me what you have learned about Harriet Tubman.
Follow up: What was her role on the Underground Railroad?
5. What important things did Abraham Lincoln do?
Follow up: How did he feel about slavery? What did Lincoln mean when he said, "A house divided against itself cannot stand"?
6. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?
Follow up: Who wrote it?