



US Civil War Battle Book

Category: Writing Assignment

Series: Turning Points in US History (*12 Incredible Facts About the US Civil War*)

Supplies

11x17 sheet of paper – 1 per student/pair of students, *12 Incredible Facts About the US Civil War*, access to the Civil War Battles web resource at <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/>, access to the *12 Incredible Facts About the US Civil War* [webpage](#), markers or color pencils

Prep

Read through *12 Incredible Facts About the US Civil War* or assign your students to read it. Fold each 11x17 piece of paper in half lengthwise so that it resembles a two page spread of a book. Assign each student (or pair of students if working as partners) a US Civil War battle to research and give each student or pair of students a sheet of paper.

Directions

Each student/pair should create their own two-page book spread that includes their own written content and visual elements (charts, graphs, maps, illustrations, etc.). The text and visuals should focus on the main features of their battle, including:

- When and where their battle was fought
- Who the leaders were
- How many people fought
- How many people died
- Which side won
- One incredible fact from the “10 Facts about [battle name]” resource on their battle’s civilwar.org page

Students can look at their battle’s civilwar.org page, *12 Incredible Facts About the US Civil War* webpage, and any other additional resources for ideas. Once the students have created their spreads, they should be prepared to present the information they found on their battle. The spreads can then be collected and put together to create your class’s own book about US Civil War battles.

Evaluation

Give the students up to five points for each of the following categories: correctly identifying the key information about their battle, presenting their information clearly and concisely, correctly interpreting the visual data from the website, and incorporating visual data in their own spread. RI 4.7, 6.7

Purpose

To help students understand and interpret visual data (such as charts, graphs, maps, and illustrations) and to practice incorporating these elements into their own writing.