

MAJOR BATTLES OF THE CIVIL WAR

Directions for Mapwork

1. Place the two map sections in front of you on your desk. Find the dotted line along the margin of one of the map sections. Crease and carefully tear-off the margin. Then join the two map sections by laying one on top of the other. The page with the margin removed should be on top.
2. Before starting the mapwork below, set up a key in the lower left-hand corner of your map. The solid arrow represents Confederate troop movements. Trace over this arrow with a colored pencil, marker, pen, or lead pencil. Use the same pencil, marker, or pen to fill in the battle symbol in the key that will represent a Confederate victory on the map. Find the dotted arrow in the key that represents Union troop movements. Trace over the arrow with a different colored pencil, marker, or pen. Shade in the battle symbol that will show a Union victory.
3. Throughout the map exercise, use the same color for all Confederate troop movements (the solid arrows) and Confederate victories (the battle symbols). Use the second color for all Union troop movements (dotted arrows) and victories (battle symbols).
4. When printing information on the map, always use small letters.



Confederate Attack on Fort Sumter

The Confederate States of America quickly seized nearly all federal property within its borders. Confederate President Jefferson Davis demanded that Northern troops abandon Fort Sumter in the harbor at Charleston, South Carolina. Sumter was one of only two forts which still remained in Union hands. When Major Robert Anderson refused to leave the five-sided brick structure, the Southerners surrounded it with cannons. President Abraham Lincoln announced that he was sending a supply ship to the fort. The Confederates, who considered Sumter to be theirs because it was on Southern soil, viewed Lincoln's decision as an act of war. Jefferson Davis ordered his commander at Charleston to open fire. Cheered on by well-dressed ladies and gentlemen who lined the waterfront, gunners fired some 4,000 shells at the fort during a 34-hour bombardment. Major Anderson and his 67 men surrendered.

On the map:

- (1) Lightly shade the seven Southern states which seceded and formed the Confederate States of America following Lincoln's victory in the Election of 1860. (Do not shade the battle symbols.)
South Carolina Florida Georgia Texas
Mississippi Alabama Louisiana
- (2) Color the battle symbol at Fort Sumter to represent a Confederate victory.
- (3) Print April 1861 next to Fort Sumter.

Battle of Bull Run (Manassas)

The firing on Fort Sumter marked the beginning of the Civil War. President Lincoln used his war powers to call for 75,000 volunteers to end the rebellion. He also established a blockade of Southern ports. These actions caused four more states to secede, bringing the total to eleven.

The Confederacy, having few factories of its own, needed to sell cotton to Great Britain and France in order to raise money to buy war materials. But the South had few warships and merchant ships to break the Northern blockade. A small number of "blockade-runners" managed to slip past the Union Navy, but not nearly enough to prevent the huge shortages which occurred during the war. The Confederacy hoped that Great Britain and France, needing cotton for their factories, would come to the aid of the South. But this never happened, and the blockade proved to be the North's most effective weapon in its eventual victory over the South.

Three months after Fort Sumter surrendered, General Irvin McDowell led the hastily assembled Union Army into northern Virginia. Hundreds of citizens from Washington followed the soldiers in order to witness the anticipated rout of the "Johnny Rebs," as the Confederates were called. Near the town

of Manassas, on Bull Run creek, the Union Army launched several assaults on Confederate positions. But the attackers repeatedly were driven back. A Confederate general named Thomas J. Jackson held his ground with such determination that he earned the nickname “Stonewall.” The Southerners then counterattacked. The Union lines broke, and the Northern soldiers fled back to Washington in a state of panic and confusion. The overconfident North now realized that the Civil War would be a long and difficult struggle.

On the map:

- (1) In the box, following number 1, print April 1861: Lincoln calls for 75,000 volunteers.
- (2) Next to the line of ships along the Southern coast, print the word blockade.
- (3) Lightly shade the four other states which joined the Confederacy:
Virginia Arkansas North Carolina Tennessee
- (4) Color the battle symbol at First Bull Run to represent a Confederate victory. Next to it, print July 1861.

The War in the East, 1862-1863

The Civil War became almost two separate conflicts. In the East, the Union wanted to capture Richmond, the capital of the Confederate States. West of the Appalachian Mountains, the Union hoped to gain control of the Mississippi River, thereby dividing the Confederacy.

After the disastrous Battle of Bull Run, President Lincoln appointed General George B. McClellan commander of the eastern army. As McClellan trained his men for the next battle, an important event occurred at Hampton Roads, Virginia. Two iron-clad warships, the Northern *Monitor* and the Southern *Merrimac*, bounced shells off each other for two hours. Thousands of spectators watched from shore. This sea battle, which neither side won, signaled the end for wooden ships in the navies of the world.

General McClellan, with more than 100,000 troops, advanced toward Richmond. In the summer of 1862, he and General Robert E. Lee, with 85,000 soldiers, met in the Battles of the Seven Days. The two fought on even terms before McClellan, thinking he was hopelessly outnumbered, gave the order to retreat. Richmond was saved. Two months later, Lee and his “right arm” — Stonewall Jackson — defeated Union forces under General John Pope at the Second Battle of Bull Run.

General Lee now decided to invade Union territory, hoping a victory in the North would bring more help from foreign countries. But the Battle of Antietam, fought in Maryland, resulted in heavy losses. An estimated 24,000 Northern and Southern troops were killed in one of the bloodiest battles of the war. Lee was forced to retreat into Virginia.

General McClellan did not pursue Lee after his victory at Antietam. President Lincoln lost patience with his overcautious commander, and replaced him with General Ambrose E. Burnside. In December 1862, Lee’s army thrashed Burnside’s troops at Fredericksburg. Burnside resigned, and General Joseph Hooker took command. The following spring, Lee defeated Hooker at Chancellorsville, despite being outnumbered 120,000 to 60,000. In this battle, General Stonewall Jackson was accidentally shot by his own men. He died eight days later. Jackson’s death was a major blow to the South.

The victories at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville boosted Lee’s confidence and encouraged him to once again invade the North. He felt he had to take the offensive in order to win the Civil War. The Confederate Army marched into Pennsylvania, where they met Union troops under General George Meade at Gettysburg. The Northern army had 90,000 men, and the Southern army 75,000. Meade’s Union forces occupied a strong defensive position overlooking the battlefield. Confederate assaults were driven back by a hail of bullets and shells. The Battle of Gettysburg cost General Lee 22,000 men dead and wounded. Meade lost 17,000. It was the greatest battle of the war. The battered Confederate Army never again had the strength to mount a major offensive. Gettysburg proved to be the turning point of the Civil War.

On the map:

- (1) In the box, following number 2, print Union strategy: blockade the coast, control the Mississippi, and capture Richmond.
- (2) Print March 1862: Monitor and Merrimac in the Atlantic Ocean at Hampton Roads, Virginia.

- (3) Color the battle symbol for the Battles of the Seven Days to show a Confederate victory. Print June 1862 next to it.
- (4) Color the battle symbol for the Second Battle of Bull Run to represent a Confederate victory. Print August 1862 next to it.
- (5) Trace Arrow 1 to show the Confederate march to Antietam. Color the battle symbol to represent a Union victory. Print September 1862 next to it.
- (6) Color the battle symbols at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville for the Confederates. Print December 1862 next to Fredericksburg and May 1863 at Chancellorsville.
- (7) Trace Arrow 2 to show the Confederate advance to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Print Lee next to it. Color the battle symbol to represent a Union victory. Print July 1863: Turning point of the Civil War.

The War in the West, 1862-1863

The North's objective on the Western front was to take control of the Mississippi River and split the Confederacy into two parts. Northern forces in the West numbered 100,000. Southern troops totaled 70,000.

General Ulysses S. Grant captured Fort Henry and Fort Donelson, key Confederate strongholds along the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers. These conquests made Grant a national hero.

In April 1862, General Grant suffered heavy losses during the first day of the Battle of Shiloh, but forced the Southerners to retreat on the second day. Two weeks later, a Union naval squadron under Admiral David Farragut steamed up the Mississippi and captured New Orleans.

After their hard earned victory at Shiloh, the Union Army took control of Memphis, Tennessee. Vicksburg, located on the Mississippi between Memphis and New Orleans, was the only important city left along the river. Grant's men surrounded Vicksburg and prevented supplies from reaching it. The city surrendered six weeks later on July 4, 1863, one day after the crucial Union victory at Gettysburg. The North now controlled the entire length of the Mississippi River. A few months later, General Grant moved into eastern Tennessee and dealt the Confederates a stunning defeat at Chattanooga.

On the map:

- (1) Color the battle symbols at Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, and Shiloh to represent Union victories. Print February 1862 next to Henry and Donelson, and April 1862 next to Shiloh.
- (2) Trace Arrow 3 to New Orleans, and print Farragut next to it. Color the battle symbol at New Orleans for the Union. Print April 1862.
- (3) Trace Arrow 4 to show the Union advance from Fort Henry and Fort Donelson to Vicksburg. Print Grant next to the arrow. Color the battle symbol at Vicksburg to represent a Union victory. Print July 1863.
- (4) Trace Arrow 5 from Vicksburg to Chattanooga, and print Grant next to it. Color the battle symbol to show a Union victory. Print November 1863.

Last Years of the War, 1864-1865

President Lincoln made General Grant the commander of all Union armies. The West was now under Northern control. Southern armies were being worn down by battle fatigue and mounting casualties. Resources were dwindling because of the ever tightening blockade. Yet despite the North's manpower advantage, naval supremacy, and stockpile of war materials, the South continued to offer stiff resistance.

When Grant closed in on Richmond, General Lee and the outnumbered Confederates fought him to a draw in several battles before winning the Battle of Cold Harbor. Grant's losses in a month of fighting reached a staggering 55,000 men. But he continued to apply pressure on Lee's valiant troops.

Meanwhile, Union general William T. Sherman's army of 90,000 captured and burned Atlanta, then swept across Georgia to Savannah. This famous "march to the sea" cut a 60-mile wide path of destruction through the heart of the South. Sherman's men destroyed crops, cattle, factories, railways, and everything else of potential military value. The eastern Confederacy was now cut in half. The Union Army left Savannah, and moved through South Carolina and into North Carolina.

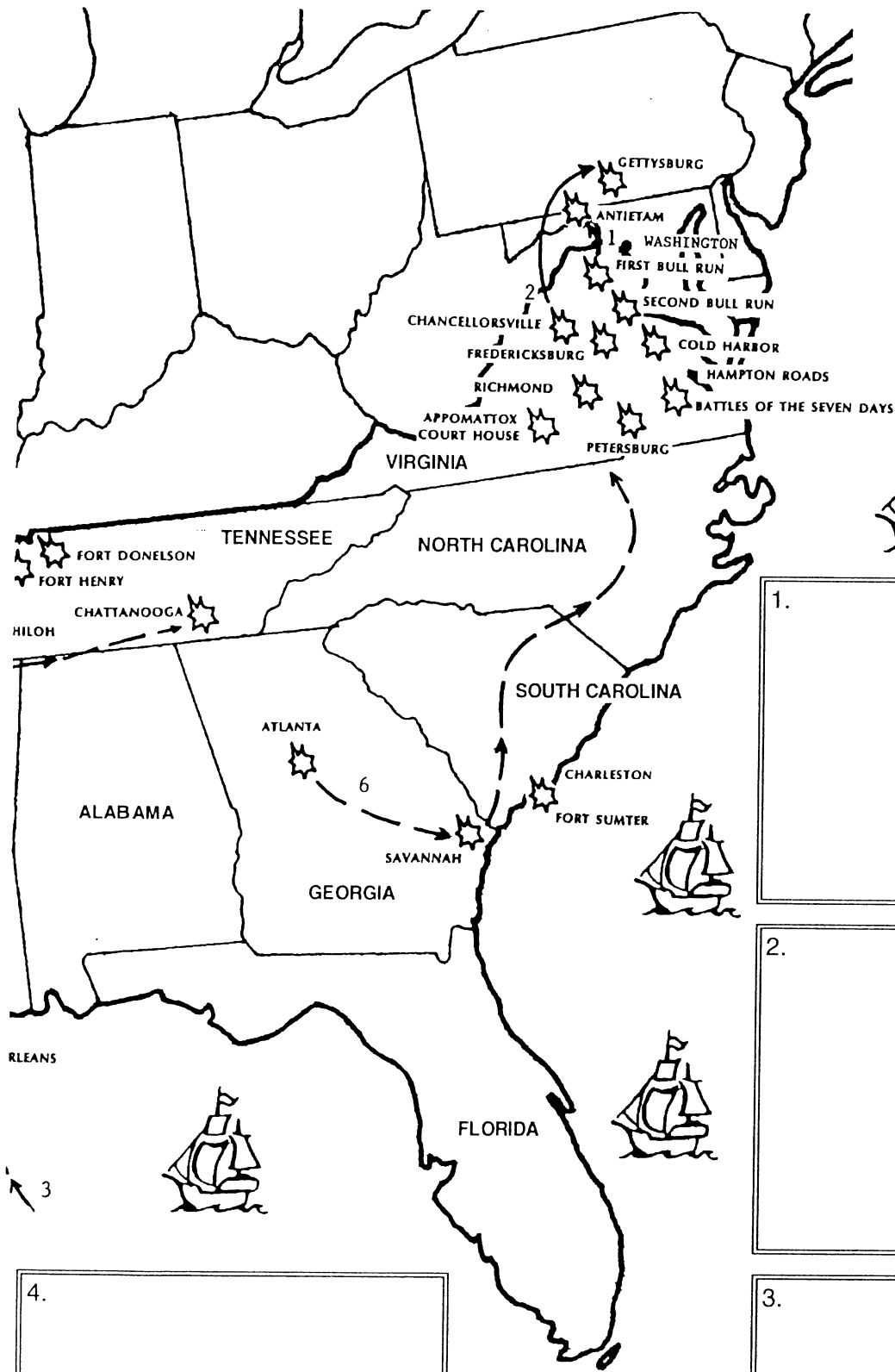
In Virginia, General Lee and his Confederate troops had to evacuate Petersburg, after a long siege, and finally Richmond. As he retreated westward, Lee realized it was useless to continue the fight. He met with General Grant in a farmhouse in the small settlement of Appomattox Court House, and surrendered his army. Confederate forces in the other Southern states also surrendered. The Civil War was over. The Union was saved.

On the map:

- (1) In the box, following number 3, print March 1864: Lincoln appoints Ulysses S. Grant commander of all Union forces.
- (2) Color the battle symbol at Cold Harbor to show a Confederate victory. Print June 1864 next to it.
- (3) Color the battle symbol at Atlanta to represent a Union victory. Print September 1864 next to it.
- (4) Trace Arrow 6 from Atlanta to Savannah, then north through the Carolinas. Print Sherman: November 1864 – April 1865 alongside of it. Color the battle symbol at Savannah to show a Union victory.
- (5) Color the symbols at Petersburg and Richmond for the Union. Print April 1865 next to the symbols.
- (6) At Appomattox Court House, print April 1865: Lee surrenders to Grant.
- (7) In the box, following number 4, print April 1865: The Civil War ends with the North defeating the South.



- ← Confederate troop movements
- ← Union troop movements
- ☆ Confederate victory
- ☆ Union victory



1.

2.

3.

4.

Major Battles of the Civil War

Multiple-Choice

- (1) _____ The Civil War lasted from: (a) 1857 to 1860 (b) 1861 to 1865 (c) 1866 to 1869
- (2) _____ The war began when the Confederates opened fire on federal troops stationed at:
(a) Fort Sumter (b) Fort Henry (c) Fort Donelson
- (3) _____ The South hoped to get help from: (a) Spain and Portugal (b) Great Britain and France
(c) Canada and Mexico
- (4) _____ The destructive “march to the sea” was carried out by General: (a) William T. Sherman
(b) Ambrose E. Burnside (c) Joseph Hooker
- (5) _____ The main reason why the North defeated the South in the Civil War was that the North:
(a) had outstanding generals and better trained soldiers (b) was fighting to defend its own
territory (c) cut off most of the South’s trade with other countries

Completion

- (6) The North’s efforts to win the war were directed by President _____.
- (7) The Union Navy established a _____ of Southern ports so that cotton could not be
traded to foreign countries for war materials.
- (8) Northern strategy called for dividing the western Confederacy by gaining control of the
_____.
- (9) Near the end of the war, the Union Army finally captured the Confederate capital at
_____, Virginia.
- (10) At Appomattox Court House, General _____ surrendered to Union commander
Ulysses S. Grant.

Matching

- | | | |
|------------|-------------|--|
| (11) _____ | Vicksburg | (a) battle that ended Lee’s first invasion of the North |
| (12) _____ | Gettysburg | (b) Meade defeated Lee in the battle that was the “turning point” of
the war |
| (13) _____ | Bull Run | (c) fell to General Ulysses S. Grant, giving the North control of the
western Confederacy |
| (14) _____ | New Orleans | (d) captured by a Union naval squadron under David Farragut |
| (15) _____ | Antietam | (e) battle at which the Confederates showed the northerners that
they would not be easily defeated in the Civil War |

True/False

- (16) _____ Altogether, 11 states seceded and joined the Confederate States of America.
- (17) _____ The *Monitor* and the *Merrimack* were the world’s first ironclad warships.
- (18) _____ General Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson served as Lee’s “right arm” until he was killed
in the Battle of Chancellorsville.
- (19) _____ Confederate troops outnumbered Union forces in most major battles.
- (20) _____ The North won almost every battle of the war.