

Lesson Plan – Fifth Grade

Hohenwald and Tennessee and the Civil War

Objective: I can tell Hohenwald and Tennessee's role during the Civil War.

Common Core Standards: 5.12 (Social Studies) **Key Details #1** (ELA)

Hook/Set: What was the Civil War? How was Hohenwald and Tennessee involved during the Civil War?

Lecture: (Told in the first person by a Confederate Soldier if available)
To a large extent, the Civil War was fought in cities and farms of Tennessee, as only Virginia saw more battles. Tennessee was the last of the Southern states to declare secession from the Union, but saw more than its share of the devastation resulting from years of warring armies criss-crossing the state. Its rivers were key arteries to the Deep South, and, from the early days of the war, Union efforts focused on securing control of those transportation routes, as well as major roads and mountain passes such as the Cumberland Gap.

A large number of important battles occurred in Tennessee, including the vicious fighting at the Battle of Shiloh, which at the time was the deadliest battle in American history (it was later surpassed by a number of other engagements). Other large battles in Tennessee included Stones River, Chattanooga, Nashville and Franklin.

Although the state became a part of the Confederacy, East Tennessee was strongly pro-Union before secession, and strongly pro-Union Tennesseans remained there and existed in pockets throughout the state during the war. The Vice President of the United States, Andrew

Johnson, was a Tennessee Union loyalist, congressmen and state politicians.

Hohenwald – With the coming of war in 1861, men of Lewis County came together to form companies of local regiments of the Confederate Army. At musters held at Newburg, the men joined their respective companies and marched away to war. Though only 165 men were documented there were reported to be over 400 men from Lewis County who entered Confederate service during the years 1861 through 1865. This figure represented almost the entire voting population of Lewis County at the time. Many of Lewis County's men who served were in the ranks of the 10th Tennessee Calvary, the 1st Tennessee Infantry and the 24th Tennessee Infantry Regiments throughout the war. Of the 165 documented enlistees of Lewis County who joined the Confederate Army 35 did not see the homes and families they left behind. With all wars, men leave with the expectations of returning home as a hero, though some know they will pay the ultimate price for their country. During the Civil War, the death rates soared as campaigns, tactics, weapons and disease changed the roles daily. Some experts place the death rates during this bloody chapter of American history at 1 in 5 men, whereas others place it even higher. The one fact not disputed is that more men died in this conflict than in any other war the United States has been involved in since.

There are still many descendants of the men who fought in the Civil War still residing in Lewis County, enjoying the freedom these men fought to preserve.

I do, We do, You do:

Soldier Find. Each student will be given the name of a soldier from Hohenwald. They are to find out what company their soldier fought with then see if they were among those that lived or died.

Assessment: Check to see if the children have found the correct company and destiny for their soldier.

Closure: Recap Tennessee's and Hohenwald's involvement in the Civil War.

Post Activity: Complete questions. Writing – Tell how you think your soldier felt to be fighting in this conflict and tell his destiny. (Cite evidence)