

# Early American History

## Free Curriculum

from the early exploration of America

to the end of the Civil War

~ 1492-1865 ~

Everything necessary for this curriculum is available for free online. All of the websites and books referred to are found on what I refer to as “the Links blog.”

Links to All Things Free for Homeschoolers

<http://homeschoolfreestuff.wordpress.com>

The materials used in this curriculum are found on the American History page of the Links blog unless otherwise noted.

\*\*\*\*\*

This curriculum is made available by Lee Giles at the Just Us blog at <http://hebrews110.wordpress.com>. This curriculum is free for non-profit educational use. You are free to print, copy and share it, but it may not be used for any commercial benefit.

\*\*\*\*\*

**PLEASE** let me know about any broken links (you can just leave a comment on the page of the blog where you found it) or about any books that didn't scan properly and are hard to read, or about any other problem you encounter. It is likely I can fix whatever it is, but I need to know about it.

Also please look for other free curriculums on the Links to All Things Free for Homeschoolers blog.

## NOTES

### Scheduling:

There are two time frames given here. One is for 6 months and one is for 9 months. The sixth month time frame is how our family does it, splitting the year history/science. The time frames for each subject is shown as 6 mo./9 mo. These are just guidelines to move you through. Please move at your own pace. Our family ended up moving faster through the wars and then staying an extra couple of weeks at Lewis and Clark when my daughter got really interested in learning about edible plants. You'll also find that with some topics there are lots of books, and you can't read them all. Another place we slowed down was slavery. I ended up taking an extra week where my daughter just read at school time because there was so much to read and she was interested in reading it.

This is written so that all of your children can study together. Our family schools 6 days a week, year round, so we have short school days which makes it easy to work around the "littles" since most of school happens during nap time. It also keeps the "biggies" quiet while the "littles" are sleeping. Our short school days are facilitated by only having math and either history or science as subjects. Almost everything else we do fits into the history or science. There is a separate free language arts curriculum that you can use to compliment this curriculum by choosing all of your writing topics from what you are studying and by using your history books to study grammar.

### Preparation:

I suggest having a binder for yourself and for your students (either individually or collectively). Before you begin each section of the curriculum, print out everything you think you will use, put hole punches in it and put it in your binder. Take out each page as you need it and your kids can put it right into their binder after they complete it.

### Reading:

I label reading and activities with L / M / U. These stand for approximate ages for students. L means 5-8. M means 9-12. U means teenager. These are approximations. You know what would work best for your family. You aren't going to read every book and do every activity. Choose from what's listed. Some things everyone can do. Some will be done just by the little kids and some just by the big kids. Good readers can be encouraged to try harder books, while struggling readers can use easier books so that they can succeed at reading and learning.

I do not read school books aloud to my kids. They read on their own. But I know a lot of families read the majority of their school books to their kids. You will have to figure out how much to read each day to complete the books you've chosen.

One of the first things to choose is if you will be going to use the "complete" history book, *This Country of Ours*, or the individual history books. You won't always have time for both, but if you choose the individual books, you will probably read some chapters from the history book where it

fills in. *This Country of Ours* is used in “year 2” of the Ambleside curriculum, but it is for the parent to read aloud to the child. It is too hard for a normal second grader to read.

Reading Online Books: Online books are all old books. That’s why they are available for free online. They are out of copyright. If your child is not used to old language, these will be harder for them to read than modern books. If your child finds the reading hard, consider using the Robinson book list and choosing some reading books from the early levels to have your child read for fun to get used to the language. Your children might enjoy The Bobbsey Twins books in level 2. In level 3 there are several series of books for both boys and girls that they could choose from. Books can be printed out or read online. One way I print books out is to print them two pages to a sheet of paper by choosing that option in Layout of the printer properties. Choose “fast draft” too in order to save on ink. I prefer to have my kids read online and assign them a time each day when they can do that.

A note on the Robinson book list: These are labeled by “level.” This does not mark the grade level of the books, but they are in a general order of easiest to hardest.

What to do each day:

Lapbooks: If you are using lapbooks, you can use them to guide your study. From the lapbook pieces you will can choose your topic of study for the day – even if you end up cutting out the cover of the piece and attaching it to a notebook page ☺ Printing/Use Options – you can print one out for each student; you can print out one and have different students do different pieces; you can have one student do the piece and the others make their own pieces; students can work together—one researches, one writes; your older students can do notebooking pages on the same topic as the younger students’ lapbook pieces. There are blank lapbook pieces and notebooking pages on the general resource page of the Links for All Things Free for Homeschoolers blog.

What else can you do? Have your child draw a picture, do a notebooking page (just in one day in one sitting—it doesn’t have to be edited and rewritten, the important thing is to make sure some learning and understanding took place), make a power point slide, a digital lapbook, write a letter to grandma and tell her about your lesson, make a minibook, add something to your scrapbook or to a poster, reenact what you read about. The point is: every day respond to what you have learned and it’s beneficial to record that in some way though you can just have your child tell you about it. There are more “narration” ideas on the General Resource page of the Links blog.

Also on the General Resource page there are blank minibooks (lapbook pieces), blank notebooking pages, and you can even download “Open Office” for free which has a power-point-like program. I use Power Point and digital lapbooking with my son who is currently in second grade. He struggles with handwriting and loves the computer so those things really are a big help to him (and me). He knows how to type (look on the Extras page under computer if your child needs to learn to type) so working on the computer is easy. The digital lapbook program costs money, but we use it a lot. My daughter does the paper lapbook and my son covers the same topics in his digital lapbooks. ([www.digilapbook.co.uk](http://www.digilapbook.co.uk)) You could do the same thing with power point presentations.

Senior students can consider doing the AP course in American History or the AP course in US Government (on the Government page). High school students could also consider working through volumes 1-32 of American history and journaling their learning.

### **Explorers** (2/3 weeks)

Preparation -- print out map, explorers notebooking pages (you could use these for timeline images if you wanted), prepare paper for timeline

- Reading

*This Country of Ours* Chapters 1-12 are on the explorers. This is found on the Ambleside page, year 2, history.

L *The True Story of Christopher Columbus* found on the "Books to Read" page. This has 14 chapters and is 200 pages. You will need to read this aloud unless your children are advanced readers.

M You or your student can read *Discoverers and Explorers* on the "Books to Read" page. You can read it all or the chapters that match the explorers. If your child enjoys this book, he could read it all and make notebooking pages on any of the other explorers. (It has Columbus, Cabot, Ponce De Leon, Magellan, Verrazzano, Drake and Hudson. It does not have Champlain and Raleigh. Raleigh is in chapter 12 of *This Country of Ours*.)

U Your older students can read *Westward Ho!* a novel, found on the "Books to Read" page. This is a fictional tale involving Sir Francis Drake. Write a summary of the story and a descriptive paragraph about one of the places he explored. In other words, if you were there what would you see, feel, hear, smell, touch...

- Activities

L-M-U

Start a timeline on the wall or in a notebook. For each explorer add a date, his name and a place he explored. You could also add a picture. (Search the explorer's name and "image" and pictures will come up. You can choose one to print.)

Print out a big world map. (I suggest a large map printed on 4 pages. Find the link on the History page.) For each explorer write his name on the map in colored pencil or thin marker and draw his route in the same color. Use a different color for each explorer.

L Use the Columbus and Explorers coloring pages

L-M Garden of Praise Christopher Columbus page has pictures as well as printables and online activities

L-M Christopher Columbus skit

L Christopher Columbus online interactive learning

L Voyage of Christopher Columbus audio story for children

M-U Use the explorers notebooking pages to choose what explorer you will do each day. There are 10 explorers with links for learning about them. Do the timeline, map and write on the notebooking pages for each explorer. You can always add in other explorers if you like and use blank notebooking pages.

U Choose one explorer and write an essay on him.

- Other subjects (if you would like these for review, to touch on things maybe you haven't for awhile) \*NOTE: I don't always have an "other subjects" section.

Math -- Calculate the approximate distances traveled. If you learn how long it took them to travel, figure out the average distance traveled each day.

Science -- Learn what is a nautical mile. Calculate velocity by dividing the distance traveled per day by hours per day (or 24 hours).

## Settlers (4/5 weeks)

- Reading

*This Country of Ours* on the “Ambleside” page, year 2, history. Chapters 13-44.

*Pilgrim Stories* on the “Books to Read” page. Reading age is listed as 9-12. It can be read aloud or by the student. This has 44 chapters.

Optional extra reading: *Sabbath in Puritan New England*. This is right on the American history page under settlers. I don’t know the reading level. Here’s a mini-excerpt.

- Activities

L-M Iroquois Indians Lapbook (1 week) Older students can do notebooking or scrapbook pages on the topics the younger students are studying. They lived in the Northeast where many of the new settlers are settling ☺

L Audio story about Jamestown.

M/U Build a mini Jamestown activity. This is really mini and would be hard for little kids to manipulate. (Jamestown is in chapters 13-16 of *This Country of Ours* and there are short readings about it in the lapbook.) There is also a Jamestown online activity.

L-M Mayflower worksheets: Mayflower Compact, Mayflower quiz, Who’s Who in Plymouth (or you can just cover this in the lapbook)

M/U Read/Listen to the Mayflower Compact. Use the “Understanding the Mayflower Compact worksheet” or can answer the question: What did the Mayflower Compact accomplish?)

M Mayflower notebooking pages (1 week) Chose a real person on the Mayflower and write diary entries as that person. Include the date (in the year 1620) on each entry. (Students can also type these and find their own images online.)

L-M-U 17th Century Lapbook (2/3 weeks—1 to 2 pieces a day) This has a short reading to go with each lapbook piece. I do recommend doing the Iroquois Indians lapbook first then this one.

Other topics: Salem Witch Trials, chapter 34 in *This Country of Ours*; William Penn, chapter 2 in *The Child’s Book of American Biography* These are both in the lapbook as well.

Other Subjects:

Use this website <http://merrill.olm.net/mdocs/pop/colonies/colonies.htm>. Make a graph of the population of the colonies by state or by year. Make one based on statistics for the same states today. Also you could also figure out the population per square mile. Look under “Graphs” on the Math page for graphing tools.

## **French and Indian War** (1/2 weeks)

- Reading

*This Country of Ours*, Ambleside page, year 2, history, chapters 45-50

*With Wolfe in Canada*, by Henty on the Books to Read page (historical fiction about the French and Indian War) My daughter thinks this is at an 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading level.

*The Pathfinder* is listed on the Robinson page in level 6. (This is from a series of novels that includes *The Last of the Mohicans*.)

- Activities

L-M Daniel Boone audio story for children

L-M Daniel Boone Lapbook

M-U Two notebooking pages, one is a map—students can describe what the map is showing

U Choose a “reading response” or book report if one of the novels is read—find help on the Writing page (in the English section).

U “Mini battle” Reenact a battle from the French and Indian War with paper soldiers. This is time intensive and very detailed.

## **American Revolution (War for Independence) (4/5 weeks)**

- Reading

Choose one of these books on Washington to read, or simply read the one page biography on the Garden of Praise website.

L-M *Life of George Washington* on the Robinson page, level 3 – This has 15 chapters.

M-U *Life of Washington* on the Robinson page, level 6

U *President Washington's Diaries* on the Robinson page, level 7

U *Common Sense* (the original by Thomas Paine—there is an audio version of this as well) This is right on the American History page.

Optional extra reading:

*The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin* on the Robinson page, level 7

*Ashore and Afloat* on the Robinson page, level 7 (This is a fictional novel that does not solely take place around the Revolution though the character lives through it.)

L-M-U Use the links named “Info Pages” and “Liberty!” to find facts for your lapbook and notebooking pages. The “Deliver a Message to Paul Revere” has a lot of good information in it and is set up as a game.

- Activities

L-M-U Make a record what you are learning about George Washington from your reading. Make a book (just fold a paper in half and in half again), make a power point presentation, write a five-paragraph essay, make a scrapbook page, a notebooking page, make a poster, make a website, blog about it, make a digital lapbook about it

L-M-U American Revolution Lapbook This has more than 30 pieces. This also includes a newspaper writing activity. I had my second grader do the newspaper articles simply by asking and answering the “five Ws”. I didn’t try and get him to write articles, but he could still make a newspaper this way. If you only have L students, I wouldn’t try to do all the pieces. Pick and choose. This was not made specifically for the youngest students but there are plenty of pieces they could do.

M-U American Revolution Notebooking Pages (there are some other notebooking pages listed on the Links blog as well)

L-M-U Listen to the Declaration of Independence. Find the link on the Government page under Documents, Declaration of Independence.



L-M-U Watch any of the videos listed.

L Time period activity (online)

L-M Building a fort online activity

L-M Paul Revere and His Minute Men audio story for children

L-M-U Read/Listen to *Paul Revere's Ride*, Longfellow's poem, Ambleside page, year 4

U Mini battles

- Other Subjects

U Analyze the painting *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere*, the link to the lesson plan and the painting are on the Extras page under Art, Learning

L-M-U Johnny Tremain Unit Study Materials (You can do this without reading the book. It is mostly for the M crowd like the lapbook but you can pick and choose activities for the other levels. It covers art, language arts, science, fire safety, math.)

**Constitution** (3/4 weeks) Personally, I did this LAST in our Early American History studies. I knew that I could cover it briefly and I knew that I could cover it forever. I left it to the end so I could easily fill whatever remained of our school year time. You can do it in timeline order (as I have done here) or you could do it like me and wait. Also, I don't think this is something you want to do in depth if you only have L students at home. Cover the fact that the Constitution set up our government and the three parts of our government.

\* Find the links for this section on the Government page of the Links blog, mostly in the Constitution section but also under, branches of government, laws and supreme court.

- Reading Options

U *The Federalist Papers* and the *Anti-Federalist Papers* arguing for and against the ratification of the Constitution.

U *Not Yours to Give* a short story about Davy Crockett getting a constitutional lesson from one of his constituents. Listed on the Robinson page, level 7. Not hard to read.

There are two links to read the Constitution. One is for printing it out. The other is for a website that gives annotation to the Constitution explaining it.

Constitution for Kids Website: has three levels so all of your students can use it.

Scholastic's pages on the parts of the Constitution

Bill of Rights Power Point presentations (there are two downloads available to enable you to view power points without Power Point—look under Software of the General Resources page.

- Activities

M-U Video: types of government, what type of government do we really live under?

There is a Constitution Unit available which has a lot of lapbook pieces and notebooking pages with it, along with links and information and BOARD GAME. You could print out these materials and work through them.

M/U Five Constitution "Treasure Hunts" are available. You are given questions and a website to find the answers. These each have 20 questions.

M/U Preamble Online Game

Bill of Rights: Online Game (elementary and secondary levels available)

Three Branches of Government online activity (all ages can benefit)

Executive Branch: White House links and link to learn about the Cabinet

Legislative Branch: House of Representatives websites (for all ages), Senate link

How a bill becomes law :

L video

M to read and online activity

U Watch the power point and write your own bill proposal

Judicial Branch: Supreme Court links, two levels available

U Have your student choose a Supreme Court case and write about its outcome based on Constitutional arguments. Find a court case with the “Read the Constitution and Search the Constitution” link under Constitution.

You’ll see that on the Government page there is more to be explored. If you have an older student interested in politics there are two books listed under “Political Science.”

## **Beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, 1800s and Native Americans (revisited) (1/3 weeks)**

- Reading

L/M Read about James Adams and Thomas Jefferson (Garden of Praise biography or *This Country of Ours* ch. 65-68)

For Native Americans:

L/M *Two Indian Children of Long Ago* on the Books to Read page, this is in the Great Lakes region. This has 35 chapters and is 160 pages.

U *The Song of Hiawatha* an epic poem, found on the Robinson page, level 6

Trail of Tears Links (Native Americans were taken on forced marches and relocated to Oklahoma territory around 1830. Sorry I don't have this broken down for you further.)

Optional Extra Reading: *A Narrative of the Life of Davy Crockett* (his autobiography)  
This is listed on the Robinson page under level 7.

- Activities

Slideshows of the Presidents on the Garden of Praise Website (there are also some printables if you like)

L/M Lapbook about Plains Indians, this has very little writing

Lapbook on John Adams (you don't need to do both lapbooks, you could even have one kid do each and then they can read each others')

L/M Craft Ideas under "Activities for studying Native Americans"

Notebooking pages are available

L/M Online activity about writing on rock walls

U Read the poem *The Song of Hiawatha* and look up the poem on Wikipedia and read about it. Write an essay. What picture of Native Americans does it give? Give examples from the poem.

U Could also write an essay or make a power point presentation (or other) about Adams or Jefferson.

## **Lewis and Clark (1/3 weeks)**

- Reading

L/M There's a link I described as a "read-aloud overview" this is a good place to start.

L/M Audio story

L/M *The Bird-Woman of the Lewis and Clark Expedition* (this is about Sacagawea) This is 121 pages and is for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade readers.

M/U Sacagawea video.

L/M "Pictures and Info" two links there –the first for M, younger students' link for L

L/M Short biography of Meriwether Lewis (Garden of Praise)

M Cobblestone Magazine

M/U "Expedition" I wrote on the Links what link we used and what we did with it.

U Lewis and Clark's journals

- Activities

L/M Lapbook -- Choose a lapbook from the descriptions provided

\*The lapbooks include the Louisiana Purchase. If you are not using a lapbook, use the Louisiana Purchase notebooking page which includes a small map.

Print out a blank map to plot their route. (On the History page.)

L Maze to print out

L/M/U Online games

M/U Draw a map of an area (we did part of our neighborhood park, even measured to make it to scale)

L/M/U Draw pictures of the flora and fauna in your yard or at your park like Lewis and Clark (and/or write descriptions of them)

Eat some edible plants (dandelions are one)

Other: You could figure out how far Lewis and Clark traveled using your map and its scale.

## **War of 1812** (1 week)

- Reading/Activities

*This Country of Ours*, chapters 69-70

Website for “The War of 1812”

Fort McHenry Skit (you’ll want to prepare costumes and props, but we did this all in one day and just read from the scripts)

Francis Scott Key short biography, slideshow and printables

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Immigration** (1 week)

Choose one of the websites to explore, a bit each day.

Whenever you read about where people came from, find their countries on the map.

Read, memorize or give as a speech Emma Lazarus’ poem.

Day in the Life of an Immigrant Boy online activity (for kids, interesting for everyone)

(There is more on child labor farther down on the American history page in the 1900s when the country is industrialized. There is a link to Lewis Hine’s famous photographs.)

L Statue of Liberty Coloring Page

M Write about the different reasons people come to America.

U Graph some immigration statistics and write your analysis of the data.

Immigration is constant. This didn’t happen at just one time. The Statue of Liberty wasn’t given to American until 1886, but before we headed out West, I wanted to show that there was new life coming into the East as well. Most immigrants settle along the coasts, and you’ll find immigrants in California too during the Gold Rush and can read about how they were treated. The biggest period for immigration in America was actually in the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

## **Westward Expansion** (3/4 Weeks)

- Reading

*This Country of Ours* chapters 71-77

M/U *Letters of a Homesteading Woman* (Reading level is said to be 5<sup>th</sup> and up) It's on the Books to Read page.

U *The Story of the Pony Express* This can be found on the Books to Read page.

Optional reading:

*Life of Davy Crockett* (if you didn't read it before, he died at the Alamo which is in this section) This book is found on the Robinson page, level 7.

U *First Hand Accounts* (website)

L/M "Pioneers" website

L/M Fur Trade

M/U All About the Oregon Trail (our family used this and did one of the links on this page each day along with blank notebooking pages)

(There are notebooking pages and a graphic organizer listed under "To Do" as well as lapbooks.)

There are also some documentary videos which I haven't seen which were made for adults.

- Activities

There are two lapbooks you could choose from. Work through the topics given and use the Links blog to find info and to supplement whatever topic you are making a piece for that day.

L/M/U Learn about covered wagons (two websites for different ages)

L/M Make covered wagon craft

M/U Manifest Destiny Worksheet

U Manifest Destiny reading on Wikipedia

U This would be a good place to do a research report either based on the first-hand accounts of traveling West or on the political idea of Manifest Destiny.

L/M/U Write a diary as if on the Trail (you could do an entry each day and have your child include whatever you read about that day—like if you read about how they crossed rivers, then in the diary entry they would write about how they had just crossed a river and how they did it and what happened)

L/M/U Make an advertisement to join a wagon train heading West

Oregon Trail Supplies Math (price then, price today, find difference)

Day in the Life online activities (everyone)

Pony Express:

L Short audio story for children

M History/Math lesson

U See “reading” (above)

The Alamo (if you are interested)

M/U Website

U Paper soldiers game

Gold Rush

L/M Audio story for kids

M Website for kids

U Website

There is a notebooking page listed in this section.



## Slavery (3/4 weeks)

- Reading

*This Country of Ours* chapters 78-79

L/M Garden of praise online one-page biographies (plus slideshows and activities)

Sojourner Truth

Frederick Douglass

Harriet Tubman

L *Uncle Tom's Cabin* Young Readers, 48 pages, 18 chapters (American History page)

M *Uncle Tom's Cabin* Juvenile Edition, 214 pages, 21 chapters (American History page)

U *Uncle Tom's Cabin* The original from Harriet Beecher Stowe. (Books to Read page)

There is an online study guide for those reading the original version available on the Books—supplemental materials page.

(Literature Pick to accompany this topic: *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* This is on the Robinson page, level 9. There is a study guide for it on the Books page.)

Optional extra reading (These are all autobiographies and are all people are good choices for researching and writing about for your non-fiction writing.)

*Up From Slavery* (Booker T. Washington) Robinson page, level 6

*Narrative of Sojourner Truth* (Books to Read page)

*Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* (Books to Read page)

L/M/U “The Underground Railroad interactive website” Everyone can benefit from exploring the different parts of this site.

- Activities

M Harriet Tubman webquest (one of the activities on the Scholastic site, there are others)

Underground Railroad online activity where you make decisions along the way.

Narrate and/or record what you're learning each day—anyway you choose.

## **Civil War** (4/5 weeks)

- Reading

*This Country of Ours* chapters 80-91

If you read your lessons allowed to your children, it would be fine to skip these books and just use the websites to read from each day.

L/M *Our Hero General Grant* (This is written for the young reader, but it is long—200 pages.)

M/U *Personal Memoirs of U.S. Grant*

High school students should choose one of the primary source books available and should write a report on one of these men:

Grant's autobiography is listed above

*The Life and Times of Abraham Lincoln*

*The Memoirs of William T. Sherman*

*The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government* (written by Davis)

Optional reading:

M/U *Little Women* (literature pick from this time period)

U *With Lee in Virginia* (historical fiction about the Civil War, a Henty novel)

There are other books available and listed on the Links blog for those with a deeper interest in the Civil War.

\*\*\*

Lapbooks: There are two available and described on the Links blog.

\*\*\*

## ***Abraham Lincoln***

- Reading

(There is a book on him listed above.)

L/M Garden of Praise short online biography

Website: Learn about Lincoln's boyhood (for anyone not reading the book about him)

L/M Lincoln-Douglas years of decision – audio story

U If you want your older students to practice speaking or debating, the Lincoln-Douglas debates could be read or memorized and presented. There are high school speech competitions where reenacting these debates are what they do. The main topic in the debates is slavery. Lincoln lost the senate race after these debates, but he published these in a book and it helped launch his presidential campaign.

- Activities

Abraham Lincoln pieces in the Civil War lapbooks

There is a biography.com video on Abraham Lincoln available as well.

### *Civil War*

- Reading

L/M Informational Website (written by children) look at the timeline and work through the links each day

U Informational Website (work through the links each day)

Timeline of the Civil War (you could recreate this in a notebook or on the wall)

M/U Causes of the Civil War

M/U African Americans in the War (short online reading)

Women of the Civil War (photographs and links to learn more about anyone/thing you are interested in)

L/M Clara Barton (Garden of Praise biography)

Battles (website, look up what battles were in your state)

- Activities

Lapbook pieces

Make recipes from the cookbooks.

Listen to Civil War era music.

*Frank Leslie's Illustrated History of the Civil War*. Read online and start on page 15 to find a historical event you are interested in, or start scrolling through. You could print any single page you are interested in.

L/M Robert E. Lee Road of Honor, short audio story for children

L/M Coloring pages, notebooking pages, worksheets

Flags of the Civil War (website)

Recreate the flags (draw, paint, construction paper, paint program on the computer)

M/U The Civil War in 30 minutes Game (listed in "mini battles")

U Mini-battles Paper soldier reenactments

### ***Emancipation Proclamation***

L/M Emancipation Proclamation website, online reading

U Read the real thing (listed under Abraham Lincoln)

U Video about the Emancipation Proclamation

***Gettysburg*** (I happen to be from Pennsylvania, but the battle of Gettysburg was a major turning point in the war. Vicksburg was another turning point battle. You can read more about these battles at the informational sites I posted links to.)

L/M short audio story for children

Virtual tour of the battlefield (requires a download)

Listen to the Gettysburg Address (you can also read it)

### ***Reconstruction***

There are two websites listed. The second one focuses on what happened to slaves after the war. I had a hard time finding something on this for elementary students.