



Civil War 150 — KidsPost and Puzzles

- Word Find: At Antietam Creek
- Two Puzzles: Maryland Cornfield, September 1862
- KidsPost: Lincoln inaugural foreshadowed Civil War
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- Activity: Tell About a Book You Read
- Resource: Read About Slavery for Young Readers
- Answers: At Antietam Creek
- Answers: Maryland Cornfield, September 1862



At Antietam Creek

The Confederate Army of Northern Virginia and the Army of the Potomac fought each other in the cornfields of Maryland. The confrontation on September 17, 1862, is known as the bloodiest one day of battle in American history. You are to find 22 words related to the battle. They are found reading left to right, right to left, up and down and on the diagonal. Some of the words share letters.

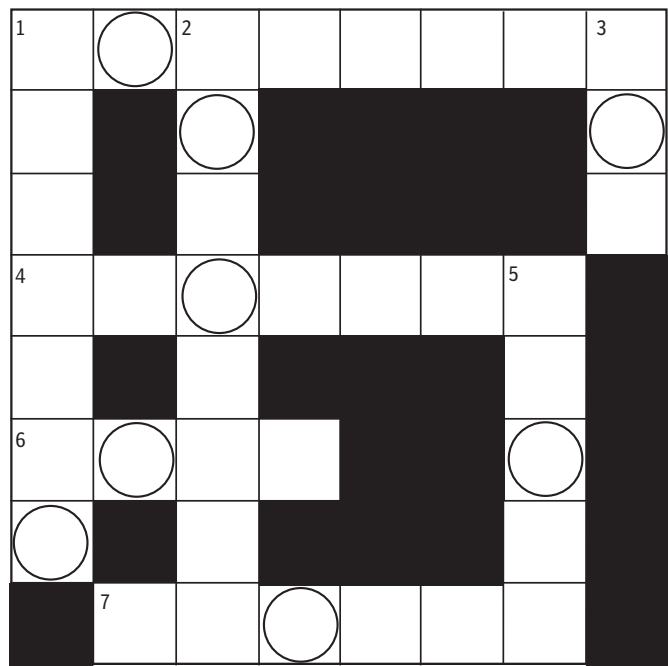
Antietam	Cornfield	George	Potomac	West
Army	Davis	Harpers	Railroad	Wood
Bridge	Fence	Hill	Rebel	
Cannon	Ferry	Lee	Shenandoah	
Church	Gardner	Obey	Union	

U	N	I	O	N	N	O	N	N	A	C
S	T	A	N	T	I	E	T	A	M	L
N	A	R	G	E	O	R	G	E	M	C
O	F	W	O	O	D	I	G	U	O	C
S	H	E	N	A	N	D	O	A	H	O
C	A	S	R	H	I	L	L	U	R	R
A	R	T	A	R	M	Y	R	E	L	N
M	P	O	B	E	Y	C	N	N	E	F
O	E	J	S	E	H	D	R	O	C	I
T	R	A	I	L	R	O	A	D	N	E
O	S	C	N	A	C	R	E	B	E	L
P	C	K	G	D	A	V	I	S	F	D

Maryland Cornfield, September 1862

A Puzzle Inside of a Puzzle

The answers for the eight “across” and “down” clues of the crossword puzzle are given to you, but they are scrambled.



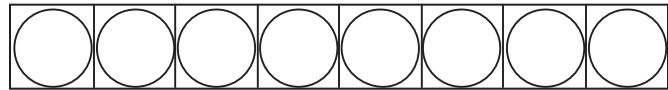
- ACROSS**
- CLUE**
1. Because of the many new tracks, the Civil War is known as the _____ war
4. The Northern forces led by General McClellan were called the Army of the _____.
6. Official title, military order
7. A comment
-
- ANSWERS**
- DAOLIRRA
- MOCATPO
- NKRA
- AEKRMR

- DOWN**
- CLUE**
1. Defensive fortification
2. Example of an event
3. Turn the soil
5. A stream
-
- ANSWERS**
- RPTAAMR
- SAEITNCN
- IGD
- ERECK

THE HIDDEN WORD

Use the circled letters to find a hidden word that relates to the puzzle’s theme.

CLUE: The Civil War battle that took place in this Maryland location ended the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia’s first major movement into Pennsylvania.



An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

THE CIVIL WAR 1861-1865

Lincoln inaugural foreshadowed Civil War

A lot can happen in just four months. Between Abraham Lincoln's election as president and the day he took office 150 years ago this week:

- Seven Southern states broke away, or seceded, from the United States and formed their own country, the Confederate States of America.
- This Confederacy wrote a constitution, chose a president and was preparing to defend itself.
- The Confederate states took over all U.S. government property inside their borders except for three forts off Florida's coast and Fort Sumter in South Carolina's Charleston Harbor.

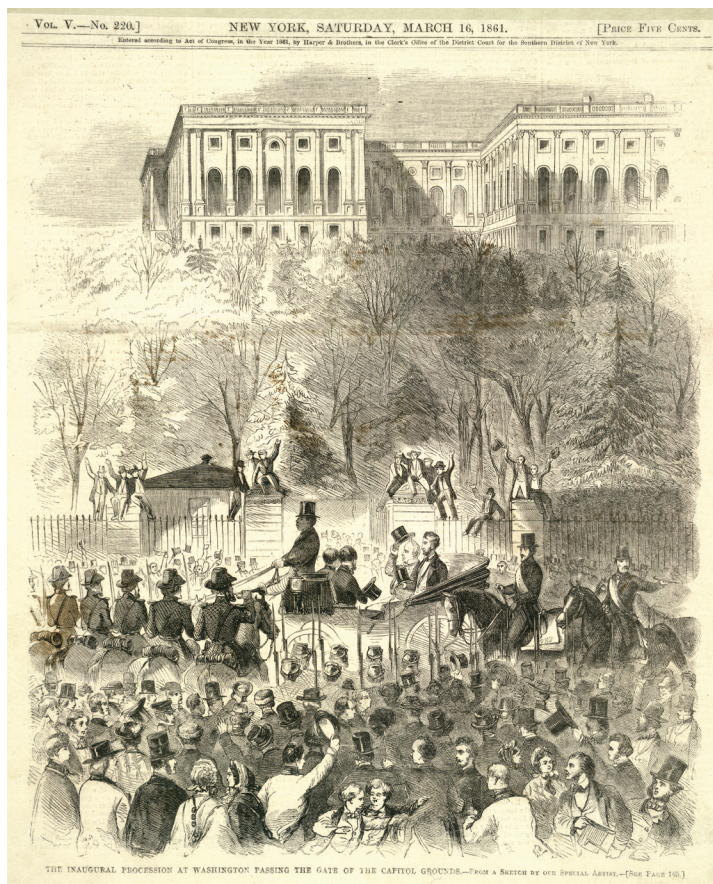
Lincoln — and everyone else — knew his election had caused these things to happen. As a candidate, Lincoln had made it clear that he was against the spread of slavery beyond the Southern states where it was legal. This made Southern leaders so furious that they threatened secession if Lincoln were elected president. He was, with virtually no one in the South voting for him, and some of those states carried out their threat.

All across America, people worried. Would more slave-holding states secede? Would there be war? Would the new president allow the country to be broken up?

Lincoln answered that last question in his Inauguration Day speech, on March 4, 1861:

- He explained that the Constitution didn't allow states to leave the Union.
- He pointed out that a free country must have majority rule.
- He said he wouldn't interfere with slavery in the South because it was legal under the Constitution.
- He added that there would be no conflict unless the South started it.
- He warned that he would use his power to hold onto U.S. government property. (He was talking about those forts — especially Sumter.)

Lincoln ended his speech with this message to the people of the South: "In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war." Then he reminded them that as president, his duty would be to "preserve, protect and defend, the Constitution of the United States."



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Abraham Lincoln's carriage nears the Capitol on March 4, 1861. Sitting beside Lincoln and tipping his hat is James Buchanan, Lincoln's predecessor as president.

Some thought his speech offered peace. Others were sure it meant war. As one senator said, the new president had shown "a hand of iron and a velvet glove." And all across America, people were worried about what would happen next.

Less than six weeks later, they had their answer. Confederate forces attacked Fort Sumter — U.S. government property that Lincoln had pledged to protect — beginning four years of civil war.

— Carolyn Reeder
March 1, 2011

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THE CIVIL WAR 1861-1865

Life for slave children in 1861

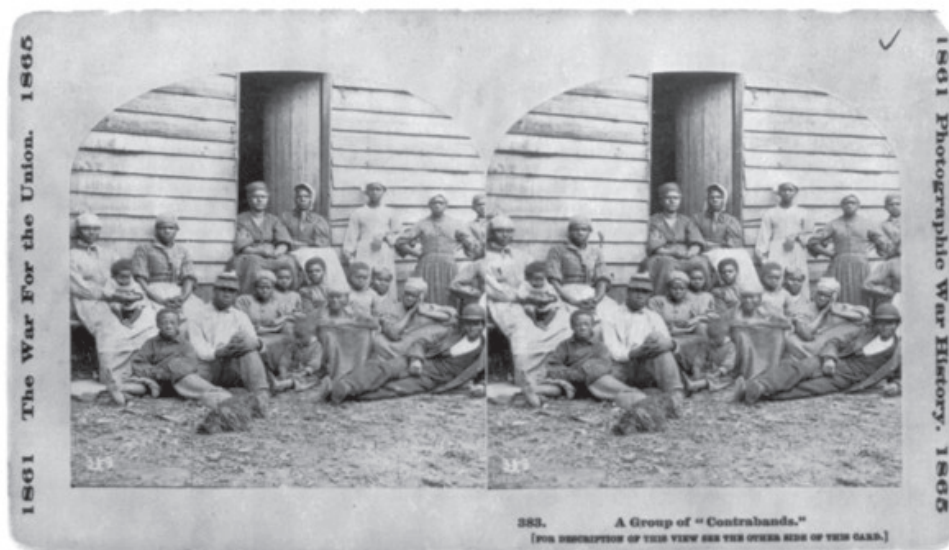
If you were a slave child 150 years ago, your life would be hard. How hard? Harder if you worked on a huge plantation in the Deep South rather than on a smaller one in Virginia or Maryland. Harder if you worked in the fields rather than in the house. And hardest if your owner used cruel punishments or broke up your family by selling off a parent or sibling.

Let's pretend you're a house servant in southeastern Virginia. You are busy with chores at least from dawn till dusk, but it's easier than field work. At night you sleep on a mat somewhere in the Big House instead of in a slave cabin with your mother and siblings. (Your father doesn't live with your family because he belongs to the owner of a nearby plantation.)

Life for slave child

What do you do all day? Whatever you're told to do. Let's say your main job is caring for one of the white family's children who is a bit younger than you. You are that child's personal servant and companion. The two of you might also be friends, but no one would ever forget that you are the property of that other child's family.

Because you spend a lot of time around the master's family, you often listen to the grown-ups talk. That's how you hear about a man named Abraham Lincoln, who is against the spread of slavery. That's how you know that "secession" and "the Confederacy" are important, even though you don't know what the words mean. And that's how you learn there might be a war between North and South. You hid your excitement when you heard that, because you knew people in the North hated slavery.



A group of "contrabands" in Cumberland Landing, Virginia. In 1861, Union soldiers refused to send slaves who came to Fort Monroe back to their owners.

Talk of an invasion

Last month, you pretended you weren't listening when the family's oldest son announced that Yankees had invaded Virginia and he was leaving home to fight them. (You figured out that "Yankees" meant Northerners.) And you pretended not to care when the master told the family that thousands more Yankee soldiers had come to Fort Monroe — and that they had camps outside the fort, too. The frightened faces around the table told you that the fort and those soldiers were nearby, and you wondered what would happen next — and what it would mean to you.

What happened next was important to slaves throughout the South. Three slaves seeking freedom fled to Fort Monroe. The Union commander there decided that the U.S. law that runaway slaves must be returned to their masters had no effect in Confederate Virginia, so he refused to return the men to their

master. Instead, he let them stay at the fort and work for the Union army.

Fleeing to safety

By June, whole families of slaves were making their way to Fort Monroe. As word spread, more and more slaves took refuge in Union camps. They probably worked as hard there as they had on the plantations. Maybe even harder. Their living conditions were usually crowded and unhealthy. And the soldiers thought of them as property, just as their owners had. They were called "contrabands," or items taken from the enemy.

So if you had found your way from the plantation to Fort Monroe in June 1861, your life would still be hard and you still wouldn't be free. But you would have taken an important step toward freedom.

— Carolyn Reeder
June 14, 2011

Carolyn Reeder wrote a series giving readers a kid's-eye view of the Civil War. Her books included Shades of Gray and Captain Kate.

Tell About a Book You Read

Books help us to understand other places and the way people lived at that time. Select a book that tells about life in the United States between 1850 and 1870. After you have finished reading it, answer the following questions.

1. I read _____
(title of the book)

written by _____
(author's name)

2. What is it about? Write a summary of the book.

3. Select a character from the story. Tell about an action of this character and the influence the action had on other characters and himself or herself.

4. What did this book help you to understand about the Civil War?

5. What is your opinion? Tell why you would/would not recommend this book to your classmates.

Read About Slavery for Young Readers

Erickson, Paul
Daily Life on a Southern Plantation 1863
Bound to Stay, 2001 (Middle School)

Hamilton, Virginia
Many Thousands Gone: African Americans From Slavery to Freedom
Knopf, 1993 (Middle School)

Hopkinson, Deborah
Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt
Dragonfly Books, 1995 (Elementary)

Kamma, Anne and Pamela Johnson
If You Lived When There Was Slavery in America
Scholastic Inc., 2004 (Elementary)

McKissack, Patricia
Christmas in the Big House, Christmas in the Quarters
Scholastic Paperbacks, 2002 (Middle School)

Miller, William
Frederick Douglass: The Last Days of Slavery
Sagebrush Bound, 1999 (Elementary)

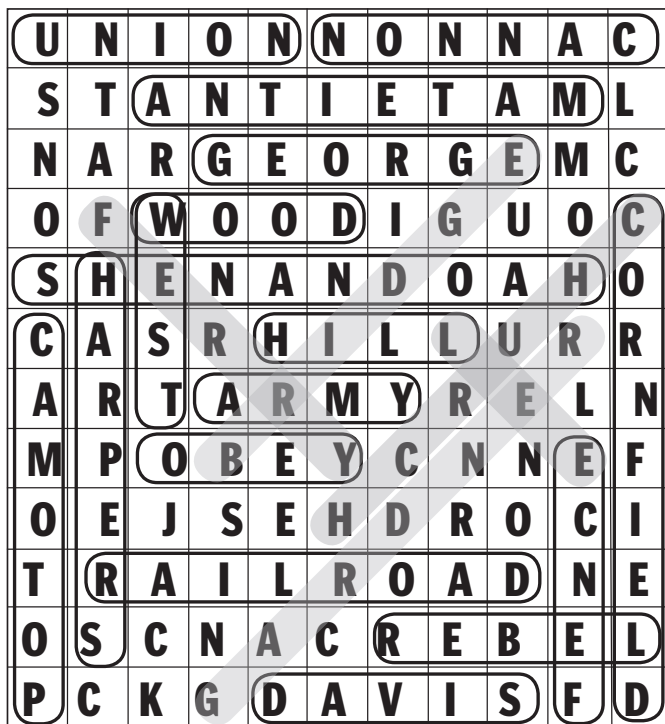
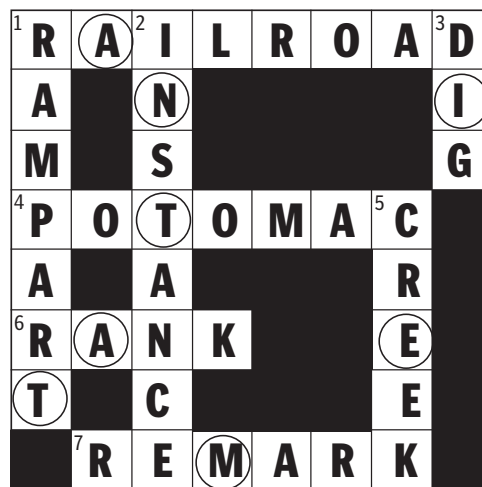
Myers, Walter Dean
Amistad: A Long Road to Freedom
Puffin Books, 2001 (Middle to High School)

Reeder, Carolyn
Across the Lines
Atheneum, 1997 (Middle School)

Ringgold, Faith
Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the Sky
Dragonfly Books, 1995 (Elementary)

Turner, Anne
Nettie's Trip South
Alladin, 1995 (Elementary)

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Answers. At Antietam Creek**Answers.** Maryland Cornfield, Sept. 1862**Answer.** The Hidden Word