



Slavery and the Civil War Resource List for Grades 9 through 12

The Resources in this document can be used with the Slavery and the Civil War Curriculum Packet for grades 9 through 12.

Books

Non-fiction and Biography

- 5,000 Miles to Freedom : Ellen and William Craft's Flight From Slavery, 2006 by Judith Bloom Fradin and Dennis Brindell Fradin (Authors).
Ellen and William Craft were two of the few slaves to ever escape the Deep South. Pursued by slave hunters, they moved from Boston to England until they found peace.
- Anthony Burns: The Defeat and Triumph of a Fugitive Slave, 1993 by Virginia Hamilton (Author).
A biography of Anthony Burns (1834-1862), the slave who escaped to Boston in 1854, was arrested at the instigation of his owner, and whose trial caused a furor between abolitionists and those determined to enforce the Fugitive Slave Acts.
- Breaking The Chains, 1998 by William Loren Katz (Author).
Describes slavery in the United States, the harsh conditions under which slaves lived, the active and passive resistance with which they fought for their rights, the revolts, and the involvement of slaves in the Civil War.
- The Civil War: A Visual History, 2011 by DK (Author).
Comprehensive timelines, revealing first-person accounts by soldiers and civilians, key political and military leaders, as well as examinations of broader topics, such as transportation, the economy, and the treatment of wounded soldiers, make this a must have reference.
- Courageous Women of the Civil War: Soldiers, Spies, Medics, and More (Women of Action), 2016 by M. R. Cordell (Author)
Leaving behind the cult of domesticity and the traditional belief that a woman's place was in the home, the 16 women highlighted in this volume put their ambitions and convictions into action. At a time when women had few legal rights and could not vote, these figures took an active role in the Civil War by disguising themselves as men in order to fight or act as spies.
- Freedom Over Me: Eleven Slaves, Their Lives and Dreams Brought to Life , 2016 by Ashley Bryan (Author, Illustrator).
Using original slave auction and plantation estate documents, the author offers a moving and powerful picture book that contrasts the monetary value of a slave with the priceless value of life experiences and dreams that a slave owner could never take away.
- Growing Up in Slavery: Stories of Young Slaves as Told by Themselves, 2007 by Yuval Taylor (Editor).
Ten examples of slave narratives give a first-hand perspective of slavery for children and young people.

- In the Shadow of Liberty: The Hidden History of Slavery, Four Presidents, and Five Black Lives, 2016 by Kenneth C. Davis (Author).
Through the powerful stories of five enslaved people who were “owned” by four of our greatest presidents, this book helps set the record straight about the role slavery played in the founding of America.
- Lest We Forget: The Passage from Africa to Slavery and Emancipation, 1997 by Velma Maia Thomas (Author).
A three-dimensional interactive book with photographs and documents from the Black Holocaust Exhibit.
- Lincoln: How Abraham Lincoln Ended Slavery in America: A Companion Book for Young Readers to the Steven Spielberg Film, 2013 by Harold Holzer (Author).
This book tells the story of Lincoln's life and times from his upbringing in Kentucky and Illinois, through his work as a lawyer and congressman, to his candidacies and victory in two Presidential elections. It also describes Lincoln's duties in the Civil War as Commander-in-Chief, his actions as President, and his relationships with his family, his political allies and rivals, and the public who voted for and against him.
- The Middle Passage: White Ships / Black Cargo, 2018 by Tom Feelings (Author), Kadir Nelson (Introduction), Sylviane A. Diouf (Introduction), & 1 more.
The Middle Passage focuses attention on the torturous journey which brought slaves from Africa to the Americas, allowing readers to bear witness to the sufferings of an entire people.
- A Primary Source History of Slavery in the United States, 2015 by Allison Crotzer Kimmel (Author).
For more than 100 years, slavery was a way of life in the United States. Many people believed slavery was necessary and right. Many others fought tirelessly to end it. Hear the words they spoke. Read the words they read. And see the differing points of view about slavery through the eyes of the people who lived it.
- Stolen into Slavery: The True Story of Solomon Northup, Free Black Man, 2012 by Judith Bloom Fradin (Author), Dennis Brindell Fradin (Author).
The true story behind the acclaimed movie 12 Years a Slave, this book is based on the life of Solomon Northup, a free black man from New York who was captured in the United States and sold into slavery in Louisiana.
- Up Before Daybreak: Cotton And People In America, 2006 by Deborah Hopkinson (Author).
This book captures the voices of the forgotten men, women, and children who worked in the cotton industry in America over the centuries. The voices of the slaves who toiled in the fields in the South, the poor sharecroppers who barely got by, and the girls who gave their lives to the New England mills spring to life through oral histories and archival photos.

Fiction

- Chasing the Nightbird, 2011 by Krista Russell (Author)
As the son of famous Black Jack Valera, the best whaler on the eastern seaboard, thirteen-year-old Lucky Valera led a charmed life at sea, until his father dies and his estranged older half-brother, Fortuna, kidnaps him. Lucky’s hopes of joining the crew of the whaling ship, Nightbird, are dashed as Fortuna forces him into servitude at the nearby mill. But when Lucky meets Emmeline, a spirited girl with abolitionist sympathies, and Daniel, a fugitive slave from the South, his dream to return to his old life seems to be within reach.

- Copper Sun, 2008 by Sharon M. Draper (Author).
Two fifteen-year-old girls, one a slave and the other an indentured servant, escape their Carolina plantation and try to make their way to Fort Moses, Florida, a Spanish colony that gives sanctuary to slaves.
- Girl In Blue, 2005 by Ann Rinaldi (Author).
The year is 1861. When spirited teenager Sarah Louisa learns that she is to be married off to her despicable neighbor, she runs away from home. Disguising herself as a boy, Sarah boldly joins the army, and before long is a soldier in the Civil War. Sarah navigates the joys and hardships of army life, all the while struggling to keep her true identity a secret.
- Her Enemies, Blue & Gray, 2015 by Ellen Gray Massey (Author).
In 1861 Missouri, Lettie has enemies of both sides of the civil war. Her fiance is a confederate, but she's freed her slaves, so her neighbors hate her. She works to keep the farm safe and survive the war.
- Nightjohn, 1995 by Gary Paulsen (Author).
Twelve-year-old Sarny's graphically brutal life as a slave becomes even more dangerous when a newly arrived slave offers to teach her how to read.
- The Red Badge of Courage, 1990 by Stephen Crane (Author), Stanley Appelbaum (Editor).
First published in 1895, this small masterpiece set the pattern for the treatment of war in modern fiction. The novel is told through the eyes of Henry Fleming, a young soldier caught up in an unnamed Civil War battle who is motivated not by the unselfish heroism of conventional war stories, but by fear, cowardice, and finally, egotism. However, in his struggle to find reality amid the nightmarish chaos of war, the young soldier also discovers courage, humility, and perhaps, wisdom.

Magazines, Journals, Miscellaneous

- America's Civil War Magazine
<http://www.historynet.com/americas-civil-war>
- History Today Magazine: Explore historical topics
<https://www.historytoday.com/>

Online Links

- Library of Congress: From Slavery to Civil Rights
<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/presentationsandactivities/presentations/civil-rights/>
- National Civil War Museum
<https://www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org/>

Background information for the Educator

- Southern Poverty Law Center: Teaching Hard History
<https://www.splcenter.org/20180131/teaching-hard-history>
- Teaching For Change: Building Social Justice in the Classroom
<https://www.teachingforchange.org/>
- Teaching Tolerance: Slavery
<https://www.tolerance.org/search?query=slavery>