



Social Studies

Grade 8

4th Nine Weeks

This academic overview can be used to monitor and support your child's at-home learning progress.

Unit 8: Sectionalism and Causes of the Civil War

Student Learning Targets

- I can analyze the impact of slavery on the different regions of the United States.
- I can explain the central role of the expansion of slavery in causing sectionalism, disagreements over states' rights, and the Civil War.
- I can analyze the causes and effects of economic differences among regions of the United States during this era.
- I can describe the Missouri Compromise, the Compromise of 1850, and the Kansas-Nebraska Act.
- I can analyze the impact of tariff policy on different regions of the United States before the Civil War.

Questions to Check for Unit Understanding

- Why is slavery the central cause of the Civil War?
- What role did the Supreme Court have in the debate over the expansion of slavery?
- Why did economic differences between the regions of the United States continue to develop during this era?
- What was the effects of the attempt to maintain the balance of free and slave states in Congress?

Key Academic Vocabulary

- Sectionalism- the differences over slavery and in social and economic structure resulted in ongoing conflict between the North and South prior to the Civil War
- Compromise- an agreement or settlement that is reached by each side giving up something
- Tariff- a tax paid on imports or exports

Unit 9: Civil War and Reconstruction

Student Learning Targets

- I can explain the significant events of the Civil War, including major battles, the Emancipation Proclamation, the surrender at Appomattox Court House, and the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.
- I can explain the roles explained by significant leaders during the Civil War.
- I can describe the problems during Reconstruction and how they impacted different groups.
- I can explain the impact of election of African Americans from the South.

Questions to Check for Unit Understanding

- What were the major events of the Civil War and why were they significant?
- How did the Southern states respond to the actions of the federal government during Reconstruction?
- Was Reconstruction successful? Why or why not?

Key Academic Vocabulary

- Secession- when a region, state, or territory removes attempts to remove itself from a country
- Reconstruction- the effort to reintegrate the Confederate states after the Civil War
- Emancipation- freeing enslaved people