

Vicksburg National Military Park



Junior Ranger



ACTIVITY BOOK

Welcome!



... to Vicksburg National Military Park. My name is Old Abe and I'm the Bald Eagle mascot carried into battle by the 8th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. My friend, Douglas the camel, was here during the Civil War too. He carried supplies for the 43rd Mississippi Infantry. Together, Douglas and I will guide you on your way to becoming a Junior Ranger.

Becoming a Junior Ranger is easy! Take this book along as you explore the park and complete the checklist and at least five activity pages. When you are finished, just drop by the Visitor Center to receive your official Junior Ranger badge and certificate. Remember, if you need help don't be afraid to ask a Park Ranger!

Please help Abe and I take care of our park by following these simple rules.

- Do not climb on the monuments or cannons.
Insects and spiders live inside the cannons and may sting or bite you if they feel threatened!
- Place trash and recyclables in the receptacles located throughout the park.
- Everything in the park is protected.
Please do not take any plants or animals from their home or remove anything from the park.
- Remember, this park was once a battlefield.
Thousands of soldiers fought and died here.
Please treat it with respect.

Thanks for your help
and have fun!



PARK MAP



Use this map to explore the park and answer questions during your tour. Remember, the state monuments are in red.

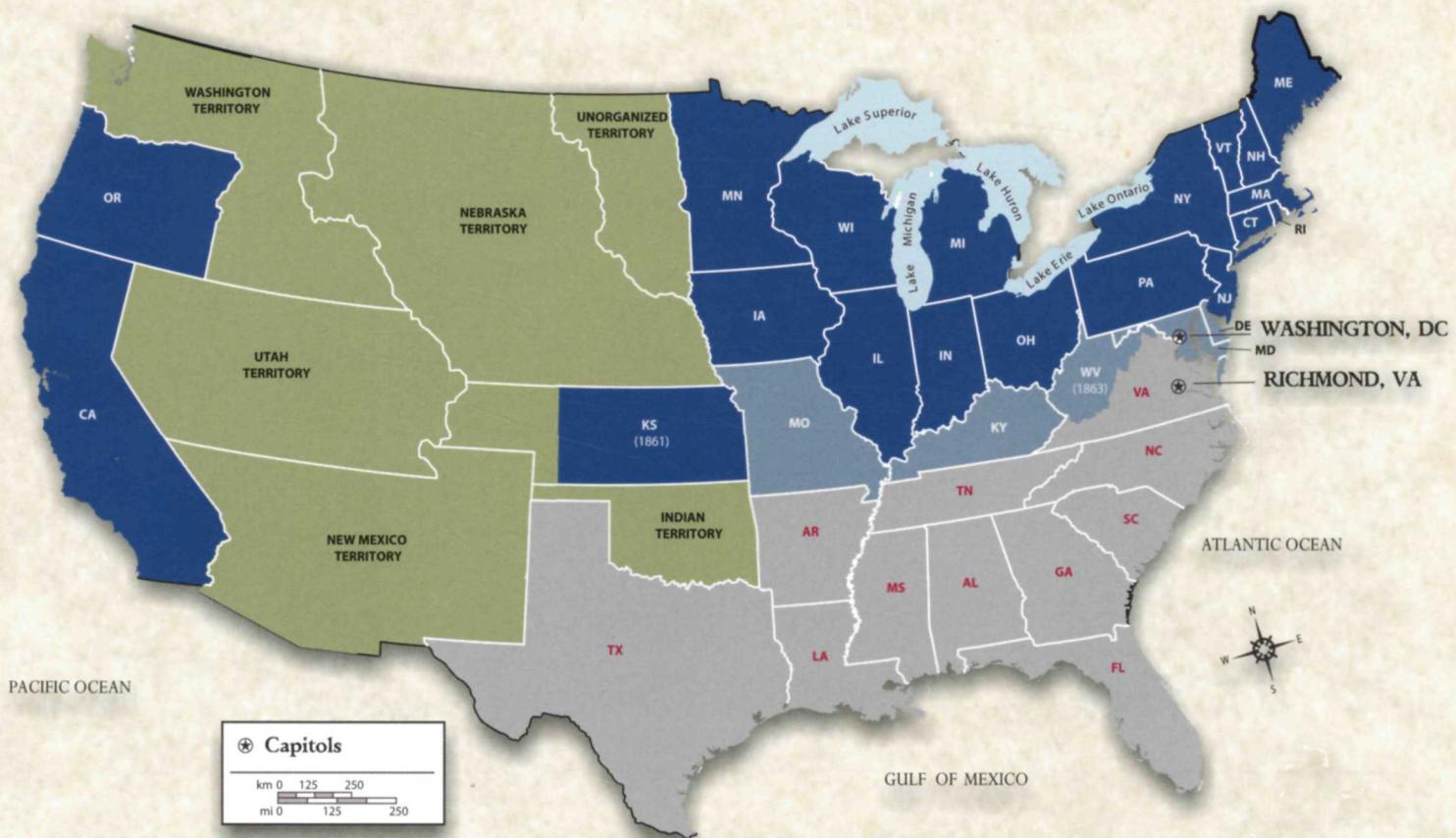
Visitor Center Questions



1. How many days did the siege of Vicksburg last? _____
2. I watched the park movie entitled "Here Brothers Fought". One thing I learned was: _____ .
3. Lieutenant General _____ commanded Confederate forces at Vicksburg.
4. Major General _____ commanded Union forces at Vicksburg.
5. On what national holiday did Vicksburg surrender? _____ , 1863.
6. What were the soldiers at Milliken's Bend before they joined the Union army? _____
7. Vicksburg's civilians took shelter in _____ during the siege.
8. Which Confederate state capitol was captured by Grant's army in May of 1863. _____, Mississippi.



United States in: 1861



"Billy Yanks" lived up North



United States
(1863)

"Johnny Rebs" lived down South



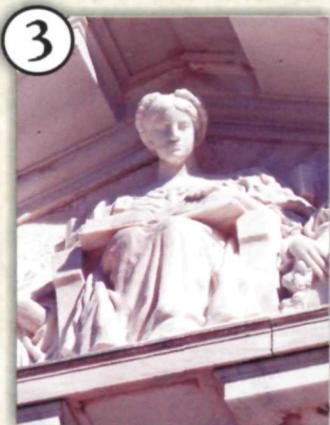
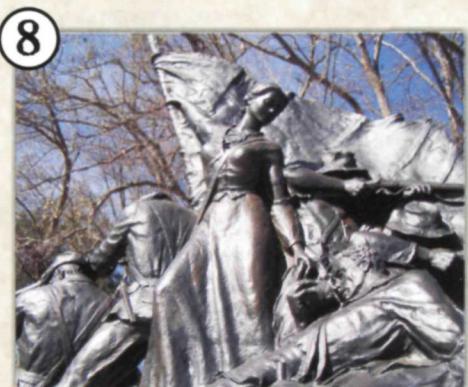
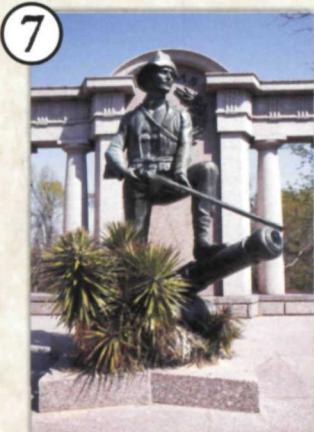
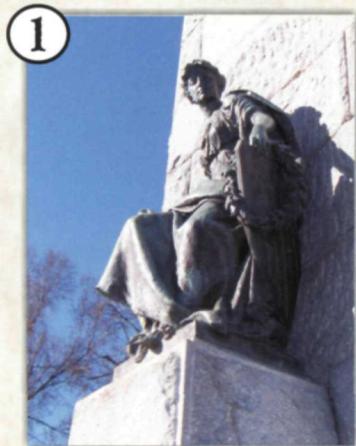
Confederate States
(1863)

- 1.) The States in blue were known as the _____ States of America.
- 2.) The States in gray were known as the _____ States of America.
- 3.) The States in light blue were known as _____ states.
(hint: these states BORDERED the north and south, their people fought on both sides.)
- 4.) What state do you live in? _____
- 5.) Would you have been a Billy Yank or Johnny Reb? _____

Set in Stone

Starting in 1903 the states that had troops which fought in the Vicksburg campaign were allowed to place monuments in the park. Now there are hundreds of monuments in the military park.

Keep an eye out for these monuments and fill in the right name.



Stop number one on the Tour Road is Battery DeGolyer, one of the Union Army's large artillery batteries. A battery was usually four to six cannons. **General Grant** grouped his cannon in large numbers as you see here. **General Pemberton** spread his cannon individually along the Confederate lines. This gave Union gunners the advantage against Southern artillery.

The pictures at the bottom of the page and the words below are different kinds of cannons that you will see here and throughout the park. Can you unscramble the letters below to form the correct types of artillery?

WORD SCRAMBLE

APROTR ○○○○○○○T○○

OMRAR ○○○○T○○○

WHEROTI ○○○○○○○Z○○○

POAENLA N○○○○○○○○○○



Parrott Rifle



Mortar



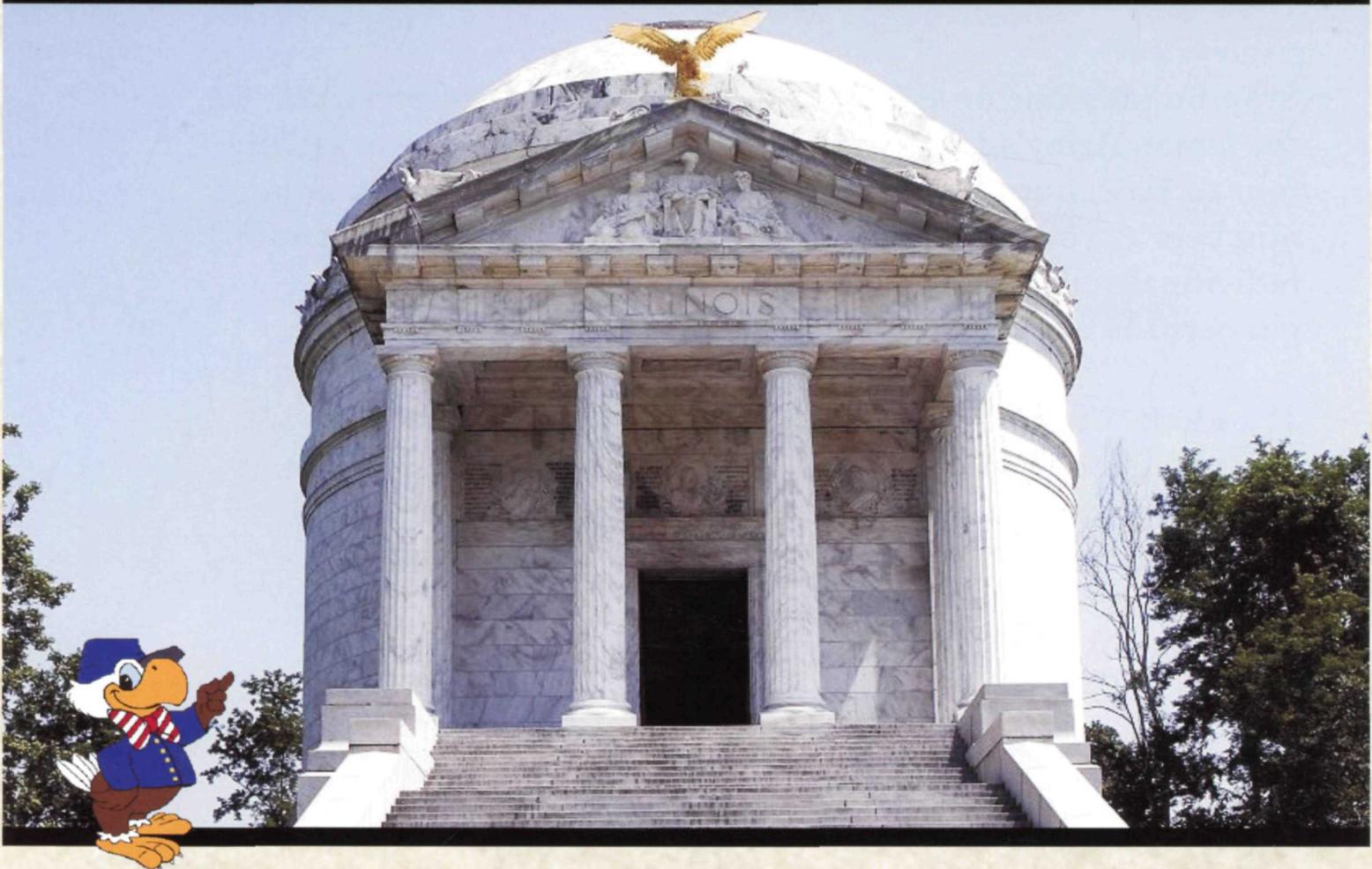
Howitzer



Napoleon

The Illinois State Monument

tour stop 2



The Illinois Monument is one of the most recognizable monuments in the park. Inside, you will find the names of over 36,000 Illinois soldiers that served in the Vicksburg Campaign. The designers made sure that no symbols of war or the military were included in the monument. Instead, it commemorates the soldiers and celebrates peace and reconciliation.

1. What is written around the outside of the dome?

2. How many steps lead up to the monument? _____

3. What is the significance of the number? _____

Battlefield Detective

tour stop 2



This photo of the Shirley House was taken during the siege of Vicksburg. Historians often use old images and documents to help determine what took place. Use this photo to answer the questions below.

How long ago was this image taken? _____ (subtract 1863 from the current year)

In front of the house you will see a blue tablet that is used to mark where soldiers were during the siege. Which regiment was here? _____

Where they Union or Confederate? _____

Examine the picture again. You will notice caves or holes dug around the house which the soldiers called shebangs. Why do you think the soldiers dug these caves?

What did the soldiers call the house during the siege? _____

From Slavery to Service



There were over four million African-American slaves in the South at the beginning of the Civil War. Nearly two hundred thousand joined the Union army and Navy to fight for their freedom.

The Union victory in the Civil War did end slavery in our country, but African-Americans continued to struggle for decades to gain the same rights guaranteed to all Americans.

If you were a slave, would you fight in a war to free your family and people? _____.

You would most likely have lived in the South. Would you fight for the Union or the Confederacy?

Why?
_____.

The African-American Soldier's Monument was dedicated in 2004.

The three figures portray African American soldiers - one looking back to the past, another looking forward to the future while they both help a wounded comrade in the center of the group.



Who Were They?



So, who were these people we see in the old photos? Well, they were very much like you and me. They came from different places: North and South, cities, villages and farms. Most were born in the United States, but hundreds of thousands were new to our country - immigrants from Ireland, Germany and other European countries.

Do you have an ancestor who fought in the Civil War? _____

Where were they from? _____

Did they fight for the Union or for the Confederacy?



Time to Enlist!

STATE OF Mississippi **TOWN OF** Vicksburg

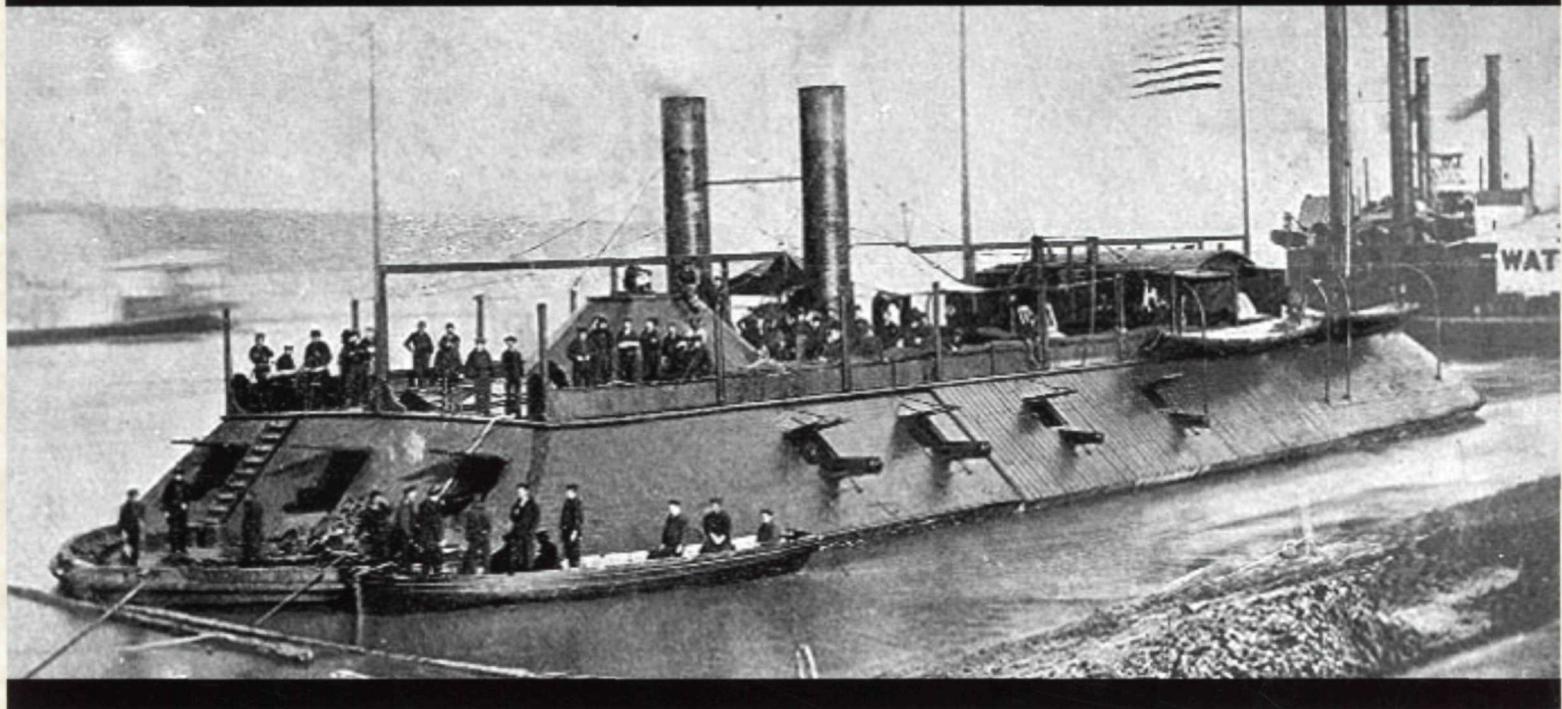
I, _____ born in _____,

the state of _____ aged _____ years, and by occupation a

Do Hereby Acknowledge to have voluntarily
enlisted this _____ day of _____ 1863, as a Soldier in the Army
of the _____ of America, for a period of TWELVE
MONTHS, unless sooner discharged by proper authority.

And I, _____ do solemnly swear, that I will bear true
faith and allegiance to the _____ of America, and that
I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all enemies and
opposers whomsoever.

Searching for Answers in the CAIRO Museum



1. In which Navy did the CAIRO serve? _____
2. In what river did the CAIRO sink? _____
3. Who is known as the Father of the Ironclad River Gunboats?

4. What were City-Class gunboats named after? _____
5. How long did it take for the CAIRO to sink? _____
6. How many sailors died when the CAIRO sank? _____
7. What caused the CAIRO to sink? _____



The Ultimate Price

tour stop 8

Vicksburg National Cemetery contains the remains of over 17,000 Union soldiers and sailors, of whom almost 13,000 are unknown. During the siege, the Confederates buried their dead in the city cemetery. That cemetery is called Soldier's Rest and contains the remains of over 5,000 Confederate soldiers.

The Civil War was the deadliest conflict in our nation's history. Nearly 620,000 Americans died in this struggle. Twice as many died from disease as battle. The casualty rate from the Vicksburg campaign was also high.

Use the information below to answer the questions.

Vicksburg Campaign Casualties

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Missing</u>	<u>Total</u>
Union:	1581	7554	1007	10142
Confederate:	1413	3878	3800	9091

1.) How many Union troops were killed during the campaign?

2.) How many Confederate troops were killed during the campaign?

3.) How many were killed on both sides combined? _____

4.) How many were wounded on both sides combined? _____

5.) Why do you think Union forces suffered more wounded? _____

King of the Hill

tour stop 9



Vicksburg is on the highest hill along the Mississippi between Memphis and the Gulf of Mexico. Abraham Lincoln called Vicksburg the “Key”; Jefferson Davis called it “the nailhead that held the two halves of the Confederacy together.” Both presidents wanted to be king of this hill.

Would you rather be a Confederate soldier here on top of Fort Hill or a Union soldier trying to fight your way up these steep slopes? _____

Why? _____

If you were on a ship down on the Mississippi river, you would have to get by four miles of Confederate cannons on these hills and bluffs.

Do you think you could make it past without being sunk? _____

Why or why not? _____



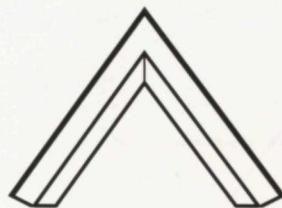
Defending the Home Ground

tour stop 10



Mother Nature made Vicksburg a fortress city with its hills and deep ravines. The Confederates made their city even stronger by building forts to guard the roads and railroad into Vicksburg.

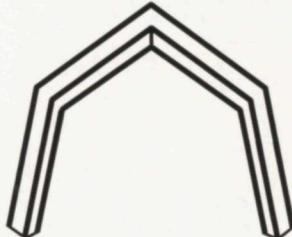
As you tour the park keep an eye out for the different types of forts. The forts were given names based on their shapes. Use the tour map to answer the following questions.



REDAN

How many REDANS did you see? _____

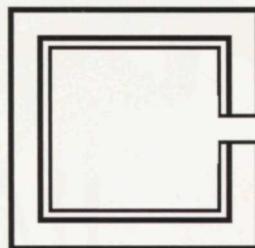
Can you name one? _____ Redan



LUNETTE

How many LUNETTES did you see? _____

Can you name one? _____ Lunette



REDOUBT

How many REDOUBTS did you see? _____

Can you name one? _____ Redoubt

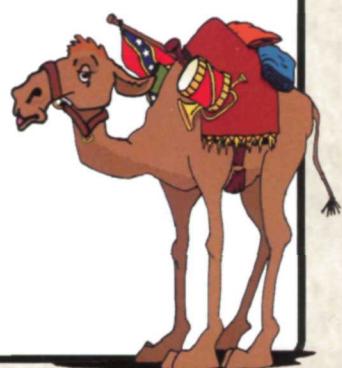
Battle Flags



The flags above were carried by regiments at Vicksburg

Each regiment of soldiers carried a unique flag into battle. This flag, sometimes called a battle flag, often contained symbols about where the soldiers came from or who they fought for. The regimental battle flag was very important to the soldiers, and it was a tremendous disgrace to have your flag captured by the enemy.

Use the space below to design your own battle flag!



Battlefield Word Search

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

CANNON
CONFEDERATE
DRUM
FIFE
FORT
FORT HILL
GRANT
LUNETTE
MINE

MINIE BALL
MONUMENT
MUSKET
PEMBERTON
REDAN
REDOUBT
RIFLE
TRENCH

UNION
WAR
WHITE HOUSE
VICKSBURG



Medicinal Plants

During the siege of Vicksburg, Confederate forces were cutoff from receiving food, fresh water, and medical supplies. As spring turned into summer and supplies dwindled, hundreds of the besieged soldiers suffered from malnutrition and a variety of illnesses.

For this activity you are a doctor making your way along the Confederate lines. As you make your rounds, you will come across sick and wounded soldiers that need your help. Since you have run out of your supplies of medicine you need to think fast to save the lives of your patients. Refer to your list of herbal remedies (on the next page) using plants found near the battlefield and match them to the appropriate patient. Keep in mind that there may be more than one correct answer for each.



- 1.) Patient has suffered a powder burn from his musket. He complains about the discomfort the burn is causing and it appears the burn may be infected.

The best plant remedy for his infected burn is _____.

The best plant remedy for the discomfort is _____.

- 2.) Patient is covered in bumps. The bumps do not appear to be infected yet, but he can't seem to stop scratching. It is too soon to tell what's causing his skin reaction but you think its probably an allergic reaction.

The best plant remedy for the itching is _____.

The best plant remedy for the allergy is _____.

- 3.) Patient is very sick, he has a fever and with his continued vomiting and diarrhea he will likely become dehydrated and die unless you can help him.

The best plant remedy for the fever is _____.

The best plant remedy for the diarrhea is _____.

- 4.) Patient is very weak and complains of the chills even though it is over 90 degrees outside. You immediately recognize these as symptoms of the mosquito - born illness called malaria. You can't cure it, but you can try to comfort the patient.

The best plant remedy for the symptoms of malaria is _____.

Plant Remedies

Elder Tree - leaves ground into ointment.
treats: burns and bruises.



Golden Rod - flowers and stalks boiled into tea.
treats: Hay fever and open wounds
as antiseptic.



Red Cedar - leaves boiled into tea.
treats: head or body aches, cold, cough,
fever, and diarrhea.



Dogwood - bark boiled into tea.
treats: reduce fever, some relief for
symptoms of malaria.



Pecan Tree - leaves ground into ointment
and nuts are a source of
vitamin E.
treats: ringworm and hunger.



Sweetgum Tree - sap used as ointment and bark
can be boiled into tea.
treats: sores, itching, parasites and
tea treats diarrhea.



*Plant notes for information only.
Do not try at home!*

VICKSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

AWARDS THIS CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT TO:

For completing the requirements
for the
Junior Ranger Program



Park Ranger

Date

