

ESSENTIAL CIVIL WAR CURRICULUM

Boys of the Civil War

By **J. Arthur Moore Resources**

If you can read only one book

Author	<i>Title</i> . City: Publisher, Year.
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Books and Articles

Primary Sources

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Bauer, K. Jack, ed.	<i>Soldiering—The Civil War Diary of Rice C. Bull</i> . San Rafael, CA: Presidia Press, 1977.
Bellard, Alfred	<i>Gone for a Soldier: The Civil War Memoirs of Private Alfred Bellard</i> . David Herbert Donald, ed. Boston: Little, Brown, 1975.
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Bungay, George W.	“The Drummer Boy of the Rappahannock.” <i>New Hampshire Sentinel</i> , November 19, 1863.
Dougherty, Michael	<i>Prison Diary of Michael Dougherty</i> . Bristol, PA: Charles A. Dougherty, 1908.

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	“Young Patriotism.” <i>Village Record,</i> (West Chester, PA) December 31, 1861.
	Obituary Charles King. <i>Village Record</i> (West Chester, PA), October 2, 1862.
	“The Youngest Soldier in the Army of the Cumberland.” <i>National Aegis,</i> December 26, 1863, The Family Circle.

Secondary Sources

Author	<i>Title.</i> City: Publisher, Year. “Title,” in <i>Journal</i> ##, no. # (Date): #.
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Alphin, Elaine Marie	<i>Ghost Cadet</i> . Princeton, IL: Hither Page Press, 1991.
Bower, Bert and Jim Lobdell	<i>History Alive! America's Past</i> . Palo Alto, California: Teacher's Curriculum Institute, 2003.
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Organizations

Web Resources

URL	Name and description
http://histclo.com/youth/uncw.html	Children in History is a website devoted to developing information about children in history. It has material on the Civil War including a section on The Boys' War. Although the page asks for a log in when first launched it can be accessed by simply clicking Cancel on the log in screen.
http://www.historynet.com/americas-civil-war-drummer-boy-of-the-rappahannock.htm	Glesner, Anthony Patrick. "The Drummer Boy of the Rappahannock." <i>America's Civil War</i> , January 2004.
http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/general-article/grant-kids/	"Kids in the Civil War." general article, WGBH American Experience PBS.
http://www.history.army.mil/moh/civilwar_af.html	The United States Army Center of Military History Website lists Civil War Medal of Honor recipients.

Other Sources

Name	Description, Contact information including address, email
Virginia Military Institute Civil War and New Market	The VMI Civil War archives contain a great deal of information about boys in the Civil War with a catalogue available on line but most of the materials only accessible on site. Their website is: http://www.vmi.edu/archives/civil-war-and-new-market/
"John Clem," Wikipedia	This is the Wikipedia entry on John Lincoln Clem. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Clem

Scholars

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Topic Précis

In a war in which more than 250,000 participants were underage children and youth, the history of the battlefields and military life of the Civil War is written in the journals and letters of Charles William Bardeen, William Bircher, Elisha Stockwell, Johnnie Wickersham, and other boys. Many of their stories were first shared with the public through newspaper articles recording their exploits. For example, Johnny Clem became an instant hero when he shot a Confederate officer off his horse as the officer tried to capture him. One particular event of the war was notable for the significant number of student cadets who were involved. At the Battle of New Market 250 cadets from the Virginia Military Institute fought as a unit. An exceptional collection of letters, artifacts, and biographical accounts has been gathered in the Archives of the Institute and its Hall of Valor Museum and preserved battlefield park. At the beginning of the 20th century the first collection of biographical information about boys from the war was published and Johnny Clem retired as a Brigadier General after serving thirty-four years in the U.S. Army. As the centenary approached while the vast majority of historians continued to focus on battles, campaigns, and general officers in their research and writing, and more began to be written about the common soldier participants of the war, this was a beginning of a renewed interest in the youngest soldiers. Over the years transitioning from the 20th into the 21st

centuries two kinds of writings were published, written by historians from two points of view. Anthologies with photographs, citations, quotations from original diaries and journals were published, bringing to their readers a researched collection of information about the real boys from the war. Other historians researched their subjects, then turned their stories into narrative novel format without citations, designed for younger readers to learn about the war through the eyes of their peers.
