
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.
Kessee, Dennis M.	<i>Too Young to Die, Boy Soldiers of the Union Army 1861-1865</i> . Huntington, WV: Blue Acorn Press, 2001.

Books and Articles

Primary Sources

Author	<i>Title</i> . City: Publisher, Year. “Title,” in <i>Journal</i> ##, no. # (Date): #.
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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.
Bircher, William	<i>A Civil War Drummer Boy, Diary of William Bircher, 1861-1865</i> . Shelley Swanson, ed. Mankato, MN: Blue Earth Books, 1999.
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.
Figg, Royall W.	“ <i>Where Men Only Dare to Go!</i> ” <i>Or the Story of a Boy Company C.S.A.</i> , By an Ex-

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Giles, Val C.	<i>Rags and Hope, The Recollections of Val C. Giles</i> . New York: Coward-McCann, 1961.
Hull, Susan R., collated by	<i>Boy Soldiers of the Confederacy</i> , New York: Neale Publishing, 1905.
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Williams, James M.	<i>From that Terrible Field, Civil War Letters of James M. Williams</i> . John Kent Folmar, ed. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1981.
	"The Death of Young McKenzie." <i>Brooklyn Eagle</i> , War Intelligence, June 13, 1861.
	"Young Patriotism." <i>Village Record</i> , December 31, 1861.
	Obituary Charles King. <i>Village Record</i> , October 2, 1862. Need to identify newspaper
	"The Youngest Soldier in the Army of the Cumberland." <i>National Aegis</i> , December 26, 1963, The Family Circle. Should this be 1863?

Secondary Sources

Author	<i>Title</i> . City: Publisher, Year. "Title," in <i>Journal</i> ##, no. # (Date): #.
Alligood, Brian	"Boys in gray: the role of Confederate youth in the American Civil War." Honors essay, Department of History, University of North Carolina, 1989.

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.
Cohn, Scotti	<i>Beyond Their Years, Stories of Sixteen Civil War Children</i> . Guilford, Connecticut: The Globe Pequot Press, 2003.
Clayton, John	"New Hampshire's Last Boy in Blue Lives on in Legend." <i>New Hampshire Union Leader</i> . Joseph McQuaid, July 3, 1998. Who Is Joseph McQuaid? Author of this article about John Clayton, or the other way around?
Davidson, James West, Pedro Castillo, and Michael B. Stoff	<i>The American Nation</i> . Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2002.
Davis, Archie K.	<i>Boy Colonel of the Confederacy: The Life and Times of Henry King Burgwyn, Jr.</i> Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1985.
Davis, James A.	"Union Musicians and the Medal of Honor During the American Civil War," <i>College Music Symposium</i> 54 (July 8, 2014).
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Fox, Thomas	<i>Drummer Boy Willie McGee, Civil War Hero and Fraud</i> . Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2008.
Good, Gary	<i>Glaube, Hoffnung, und Liebe; Faith, Hope, and Love</i> . Morgantown, PA: Masthof Press, 1996.
Hoar, Jay S.	<i>New England's Last Civil War Veterans</i> . Arlington, TX: Seacliff Press, 1976
_____.	<i>Callow, Brave, and True, a Gospel of Civil War Youth</i> . Gettysburg, PA: Thomas Publications, 1999.
_____.	<i>Our Eldest and Last Civil War Nurses</i> . Temple, MN: Bo-ink-um Press, 2001.
_____.	<i>Montana's Last Civil War Veterans</i> . Temple, MN: Bo-ink-um Press, 2010.
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Howe, Henry	<i>Historical Collections of Ohio</i> , vol. 2. Cincinnati: State of Ohio/Laning Printing Company, 1896.
Hull, Susan R., collated by	<i>Boy Soldiers of the Confederacy</i> . New York: Neale Publishing Company, 1905.
Jabour, Anya	<i>Topsy-Turvy: How the Civil War Turned the World Upside Down for Southern Children</i> .
Marten, James	<i>Children for the Union: The War Spirit on the Northern Home Front</i> . Chicago, IL: Ivan R. Dee, 2004.
Marten, James, ed.	<i>Children and Youth during the Civil War</i> . New York: New York University Press, 2012.
Moore, J. Arthur	<i>Journey into Darkness</i> , 4 vols., New York: Omnibooks, 2018
Murphy, Jim	<i>The Boys' War</i> . New York: Clarion Books, 1990.
Robertson, Ellen	"Major General John Lincoln Clem." <i>On Point: Journal of Army History</i> 19, no. 2 (Fall 2013): 18-21.
Smith, Timothy B.	"Myths of Shiloh," in <i>America's Civil War</i> , 19, no. 5 (May 2006):30-71.

Stauffer, Romaine	<i>Aaron's Civil War</i> . Harrisonburg, Virginia: Christian Light Publications, 2011.
Steele, Joel Dorman and Esther Baker Steele	<i>A Brief History of the United States</i> . New York: American Book Company, 1885.
Styple, William B.	<i>The Little Bugler, The True Story of a Twelve-Year-Old Boy in the Civil War</i> . Kearny, NJ: Belle Grove Publishing Company, 1998.
Viola, Herman J.	<i>Why We Remember United States History</i> . New York: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1998.
Werner, Emmy E.	<i>Reluctant Witnesses, Children's Voices from the Civil War</i> . Boulder Colorado: Westview Press, 1998.
Wiley, Bell Irvin	<i>The Life of Johnny Reb</i> . Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1943.
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Wisler, G. Clifton	<i>Mr. Lincoln's Drummer</i> . New York: Dutton Children's Books, 1995.
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_____.	<i>When Johnny Went Marching</i> . New York: Harper-Collins, 2001.

Organizations

Organization Name	Description, Contact information including address, email

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-	Glesner, Anthony Patrick. "The Drummer

war-drummer-boy-of-the-rappahannock.htm	Boy of the Rappahannock.” <i>America’s Civil War</i> , January 2004.
http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/american-experience/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/

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. Still, for all their numbers, one really has to make the effort to find and know the stories of any of those tens of thousands of boys who were part of a defining event in the history of this country. Their history is barely acknowledged in the textbooks of today.
