

The Civil War in Arkansas

Strand 4: Scarcity and Choice

(Grades 4-6)



Learning Expectation: Students will demonstrate an understanding of how the availability and access to resources during the Civil War affected the political and individual decisions made by Arkansans during the conflict.

Grades 4-6:

4.1.5. Illustrate and explain how water, soil, and forests influenced the military strategies of the Civil War in Arkansas.

1. Determine a list of important rivers in Arkansas during the Civil War and mark them on a map of the state (referral book: *Historical Atlas of Arkansas*, pp. 2-8).
2. Study the importance of the White, Ouachita, and Arkansas Rivers, and mark them on a blank map of Arkansas.
3. Examine how the geographical features of south Arkansas played a part in the Camden Expedition (Poison Spring, Jenkins Ferry, Marks Mill, Ditch Bayou at Lake Village).
4. How did the geographic barriers surrounding Little Rock affect General Steele's Little Rock expedition. Investigate and compare General Ulysses Grant's campaign at Vicksburg, Mississippi with problems in capturing the Confederate capitol of the state.

4.1.6. Identify, describe, and locate mineral and fossil fuel resources of Arkansas used during the Civil War.

1. Investigate and list the uses of the following during the Civil War (referral book: *Historical Atlas of Arkansas*, pp. 52-53).

Silver	Lignite	Coal	Zinc	Clay
Lead	Iron	Manganese	Sulphur (Pyric)	Sand
Gravel	Fieldstone	Chert	Novaculite	Saltpeter (Potassium Nitrate)

2. Identify and mark on a map of Arkansas where the minerals listed in **Question #1** can be found.
3. Contact the Arkansas Geological Commission at 3815 West Roosevelt, Little Rock, AR 72204 or call (501) 296-1877 for information on the mineral resources of Arkansas.

4.1.7. Research the influence of minerals and fossil fuels on the Civil War in Arkansas.

1. Read excerpts from the *History of Marion County* by Earl Berry to find out how saltpeter was used in the war effort as listed in **Appendix 4-1**.
2. Read excerpts from the history of Arkadelphia and Yell County in **Appendix 2-1** to find out how minerals were used in the war effort.

4.1.8. Explore and report the influence of Civil War heritage tourism in Arkansas.

1. Identify and map Civil War sites in Arkansas that tourists can visit (referral book: *Historical Atlas of Arkansas*, p. 42).

2. Contact the *Arkansas State Parks* at One Capitol Mall, Little Rock, AR 72201 or call (501) 682-7777 and *National Park Service* at the Office of Public Inquiries, Post Office Box 37127, Room 1013, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127, or call (202) 208-4747 (<http://www.nps.gov>) to obtain information about Civil War sites in Arkansas and neighboring states. Discuss their significance.
- 4.1.9. Analyze how changes in Arkansas natural resources during or as a result of the Civil War influenced social and political development (such as changing political districts, decline and growth of communities, job opportunities, and transportation).**
1. Explain how the timber industry and the rise of the railroad industry in Arkansas during the post-war years caused the growth or decline of Civil War communities in the state. Examples include Leslie in Stone County, Paragould in Greene County, and Hope and Washington in Hempstead County (referral book: *Historical Atlas of Arkansas*, pp. 49-51).
 2. Compare the size of major Arkansas communities in the 1860s and now by using census data and historical pictures. Examples include Fort Smith, Little Rock, Fayetteville, Jonesboro, Helena, Washington, Arkadelphia, and Camden.



Saving Arkansas Civil War Heritage!

The **Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail (ACWHT)** is a statewide system of five regional battlefield protection organizations. These groups, which were formed between 1994 and 1997, seek to identify, protect, interpret, and promote the properties that collectively tell the story of Arkansas in the Civil War. General guidance is provided by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage.

Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail groups can be found in northwest, central, northeast, southwest and southeast Arkansas. For more information on the program or how you can get involved, call (501) 324-9880.

*Notes for Teachers on Strand 4:
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