Learn About It
In this unit, your child will learn:

• the causes of the Civil War and the important battles that took place during the war
• how the reunified United States reconstructed the South after the war

Here are some ways that you can help your child learn:

Talk About It

Chapter 5: Causes of the Civil War

Resolving conflict  The North and the South had many differences. Many people thought that fighting was the only way to solve the problems. What are some ways to resolve conflict without fighting?

Chapter 6: The Civil War and Reconstruction

Turning points  The Civil War was decided by a series of turning points. But what is a turning point? Play a game with your child to demonstrate this concept. Explain that during a game, one team or player may win by gaining an advantage at a certain point in the game.

Make It

Reconstruction  After the war, the South had to be rebuilt. Work together to make a plan for reconstructing something in your town that needs repair, such as an old statue or a building destroyed by fire. Together, make a list of the steps you would take for reconstruction. Then have your child construct the finished product using craft supplies.

Read to Learn More About It

If You Lived at the Time of the Civil War, by Kay Moore. The Civil War is seen from the perspectives of both the North and the South.

The Long Road to Gettysburg, by Jim Murphy. An account of the Battle of Gettysburg in text, photos, and drawings.

Never Were Men So Brave: The Irish Brigade During the Civil War, by Susan Provost Beller. Thomas Francis Meagher founded the Irish Brigade, 535 fearless men who fought for the Union and to whom a monument was dedicated at Gettysburg.