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Connect the core lessons to an important concept and dig into it. Extend your social studies knowledge!

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Visual Learning

Become skilled at reading visuals. Graphs, maps, and timelines help you put all of the information together.

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How did South Carolina change in the 1800s?

“I have ... believed from the first that ... the subject of slavery will ... end in disunion.”

—John C. Calhoun

John C. Calhoun 1782–1850

A lawyer from Abbeville, John C. Calhoun became one of the most famous members of Congress in the 1800s, and served as Vice President.

Robert Smalls 1839–1916

After escaping slavery and fighting in the Civil War, Robert Smalls served five terms as South Carolina's representative in Congress.

Sarah Grimke 1792–1873

Sarah Grimke and her sister Angelina worked to end slavery. The Grimke sisters also tried to gain more opportunities for women.
The War in South Carolina

Build on What You Know

Did you ever start a job that grew harder as you went along? At the start of the Civil War, both sides thought they could win easily. They soon learned that winning would not be easy.

The War Begins

Main Idea: South Carolina played an important part in the Civil War.

On April 12, 1861, Confederate soldiers fired on Fort Sumter. It was a Union fort in Charleston Harbor. The firing on Fort Sumter was the start of the Civil War.

Confederate soldiers fired on the fort for 34 hours. Finally, the Union soldiers surrendered. After the battle, thousands of men in South Carolina and other southern states joined the Confederate army.

VOCABULARY
blockade
emancipation

READING SKILL
Sequence As you read, list the important events of the Civil War in the order that they occurred.

Fort Sumter People in Charleston could easily see the shells exploding in the fort.

The War Ends

In 1865, after four years of hard fighting, the Confederacy could not fight anymore. The leader of the Confederate Army was General Robert E. Lee. He surrendered to the leader of the Union army, General Ulysses S. Grant. The Civil War was over.

What were some hardships in South Carolina caused by the Civil War?

VOCABULARY
Write a short paragraph about what happened at Charleston Harbor during the Civil War. Use the word blockade.

READING SKILL
What was the sequence of key events in South Carolina during the Civil War?

MAIN IDEA: Geography Why was the South Carolina coast so important during the war?

MAIN IDEA: History What act did Lincoln take to end slavery in the Confederacy?

Lesson Summary
South Carolina was an important state in the Civil War. The Union won control of the South Carolina coast after blockading Charleston Harbor. While soldiers fought, the lives of women and enslaved Africans changed. The war ended with the defeat of the Confederacy.

Why It Matters...
Because the North won the Civil War, the United States remained one country and slavery was ended.

Surrender Lee surrendered on April 9, 1865, at Appomattox Court House in Virginia.

TIMELINE SKILL: How many years did the Civil War last?

CRITICAL THINKING: Conclude Why was the support of women important to the war effort in the South?

RESEARCH ACTIVITY: Find out about a Civil War battle that took place in South Carolina. Write a short description of that battle. Make a map showing where it happened.

Lesson Review

The Civil War Begins

1861

Fort Sumter

1861

Charleston Harbor Blockade

1863

Sherman’s march

1865

Civil War ends

1865

The Civil War ends

1865

Lesson Summary

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