

Civil War Puppets

To learn about key figures from the civil war era, students will write poetry, draw portraits, make puppets and engage in debates with each other.

 4 (60-minute) sessions

Big Idea:

Through narrative storytelling and informing ourselves of differing cultural perspectives, we will transform our vision of a singular historical trajectory into a vibrant web of multiple histories.

Essential Questions:

- ✓ How can art help a piece of distant past become relevant to us today?
- ✓ How can we tell stories with puppets?
- ✓ How can we make poems relevant to us?

Alignment

National Arts Standards

 **VA: Cr2.1.7a**
Demonstrate persistence in developing skills with various materials, methods, and approaches in creating works of art or design.

 **MU: Cr2.1.7**
Use standard and/or iconic notation and/or audio/ video recording to document personal simple rhythmic phrases, melodic phrases, and harmonic sequences.

Studio Habits of Mind

 **Develop Craft**
Engage & Persist
Stretch & Explore

Module Snapshot

Materials

Example Learning Goals

SESSION 1



- Civil War Documentaries
- Lecture PowerPoint
- Computers (for individual research)
- Pen/pencil
- Paper

1. I can do my own research using class lectures and online to learn more about the American Civil War.

SESSION 2



HOW NOT TO HAVE TO DRY THE DISHES

If you have to dry the dishes
(Such an awful, boring chore)
If you have to dry the dishes
(‘Stead of going to the store)
If you have to dry the dishes
And you drop one on the floor—
Maybe they won’t let you
Dry the dishes anymore.

- Quatrains document
- Poetry documents
- Poem videos
- Pen/pencil
- Paper

1. I can write a rhyming ballad based on my research on a figure from the American Civil War.

SESSION 3



- Large-grid paper
- Pencil
- Paper
- Puppet template
- Scissors

1. I can create a puppet of my character from the Civil War.

Assessment

Formative

Students can create a rhyming ballad based on their research of a Civil War character.

Summative

Students can draw their character using the grid method and build simple articulated puppets.