

CONVERSATIONS ON SC HISTORY

with Dr. Walter Edgar

Lesson 13: South Carolina and the Civil War

Focus Points:

- South Carolina voted unanimously to secede from the Union on Dec. 20, 1860
 - Philosophy
 - Union would allow SC to secede
 - Feeling of Southern white superiority over Northerners
 - Congressional delegation resigned
 - Delegation to Washington to negotiate Federal property
 - Major Anderson moved garrison from Ft. Moultrie to Ft. Sumter
 - Convention of Delegates – Montgomery, Alabama
 - Formed Confederate States of America
 - Leadership – President Jefferson Davis
 - Defended SC and the Charleston Harbor
 - Two governments in SC after 1860
 - Secession Convention – war preparation
 - General Assembly
 - War came home to SC
 - Ultimatum sent to Major Anderson to surrender
 - Firing on Ft. Sumter – Civil War April 12, 1861
 - Invasion of Beaufort at Port Royal
 - Major naval station
 - Port Royal Experiment
 - Federal government broke “back” of SC – July 1863
 - Gettysburg
 - Vicksburg
 - Battery Wagner
 - Charleston – “ghost city”
 - Sherman’s March
 - Surrender
 - Lee surrendered at Appomattox, Virginia
 - Johnston surrendered in NC
 - President Jefferson Davis fled through SC
- “Gone with the Wind”
 - Human Cost – 31-35% of white South Carolinians killed in war
 - Property Loss
 - SC suffered – war began and ended in SC

Discussion:

What was the prevalent feeling of what would happen to SC after it seceded from the Union? How did SC underestimate its Northern opponent? How was leadership established for both the Confederacy and South Carolina?

Readings:

Edgar, South Carolina, A History. pp. 354-376.

Paul Horne & Patricia Klien, South Carolina, The History of an American State. pp. 298-323.

South Carolina Social Studies Standards:

Standard 8-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the American Civil War—its causes and effects and the major events that occurred during that time.

Indicator 8-3.4: Compare the attitudes of the unionists, cooperationists, and secessionists in South Carolina and summarize the reasons that the members of the South Carolina secession convention in 1860 voted unanimously to secede from the Union, including concerns about states' rights and fears about abolition. (H, P, G, E)

Indicator 8-3.5: Compare the military strategies of the North and South with regard to specific events and geographic locations in South Carolina, including the capture of Port Royal, the Union blockade of Charleston, and Sherman's march through the state. (H, P, G)

Indicator 8-3.6: Compare the effects of the Civil War on daily life in South Carolina, including the experiences of plantation owners, women, Confederate and Union soldiers, African Americans, and children. (H, E)

Standard USHC-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and the course of the Civil War and Reconstruction in America.

Indicator USHC-4.2: Explain how the political events and issues that divided the nation led to civil war, including the compromises reached to maintain the balance of free and slave states, the successes and failures of the abolitionist movement, the conflicting views on states' rights and federal authority, the emergence of the Republican Party and its win in 1860, and the formation of the Confederate States of America. (H, P)

Indicator USHC-4.3: Outline the course and outcome of the Civil War, including the role of African American military units; the impact of the Emancipation Proclamation; and the geographic, political, and economic factors involved in the defeat of the Confederacy. (H, G, E, P)

Literacy Elements:

- A. Distinguish between past, present, and future time
- B. Establish chronological order in constructing one's own historical narratives
- E. Explain change and continuity over time
- K. Use texts, photographs, and documents to observe and interpret social studies trends and relationships
- O. Consider multiple perspectives of documents and stories
- R. Use statistics and other quantitative techniques to interpret and evaluate social studies information