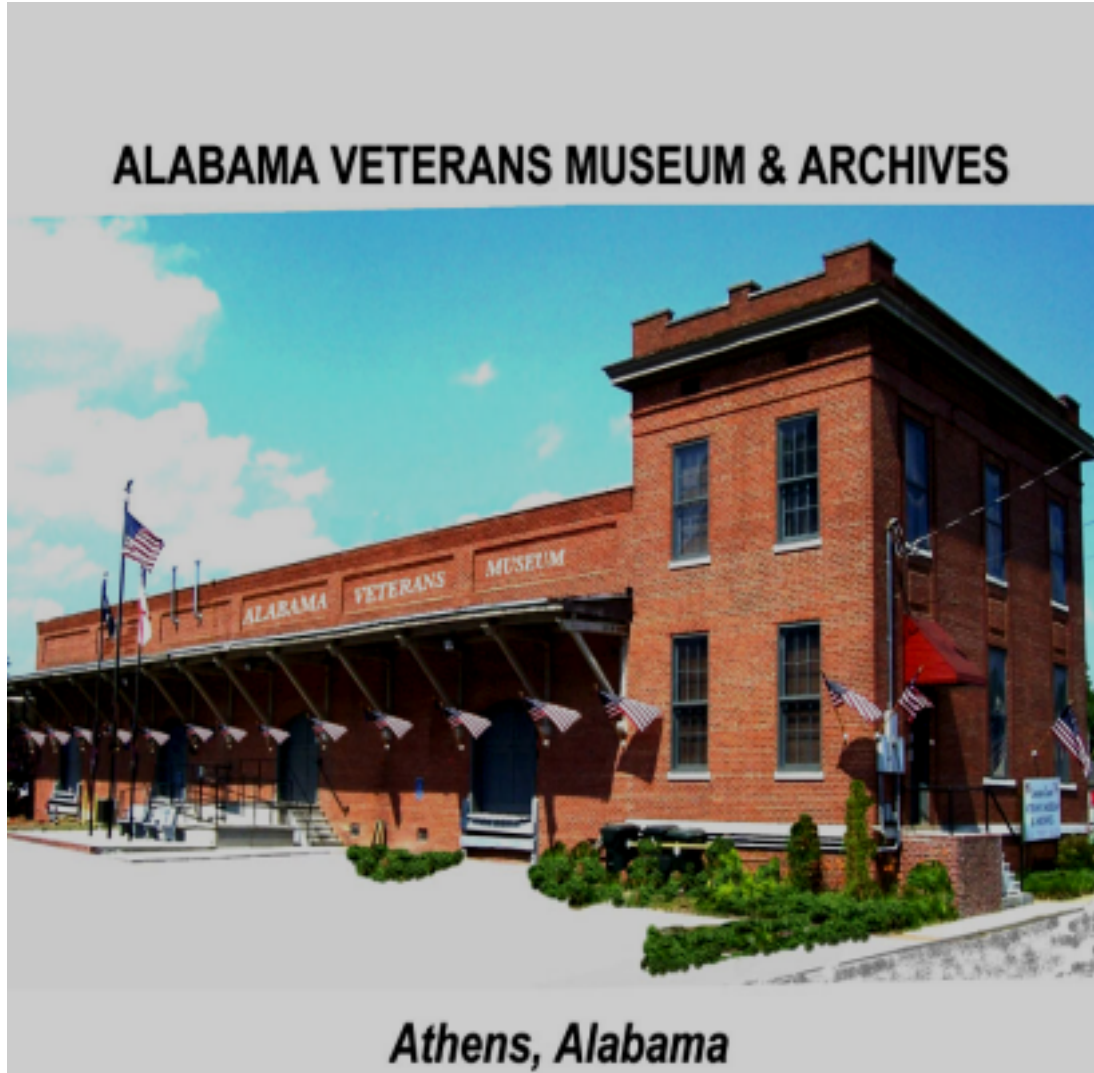




Alabama Veterans Museum



Educator Resource Packet *Alabama Veterans Museum*

100 West Prior Street Athens, AL 35611

256.771.7578

<http://www.alabamaveteransmuseum.com/>

Like us on Facebook

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area

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Introduction

This curriculum packet is designed to provide fourth-grade classes the opportunity to learn about The Alabama Veterans Museum and the history of American wars through visual aids and hands-on activities in accordance with the National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies. These resources can be

adapted for other age groups.

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Rules and Regulations

Before the Tour

- ★ Contact the museum at 256.771.7578 to book your tour.
- ★ Introduce your class to the material before visiting.
(Recommended)

During the Tour

- ★ Remind students not to touch or lean against the exhibits or display cases.
- ★ No food, drinks or gum are allowed within the museum exhibit area.
- ★ Be courteous and respectful to museum staff members.

Hours: Monday – Saturday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Admission: Donations appreciated.

Website: <http://www.alabamaveteransmuseum.com/>

Alabama Veterans

The Revolutionary War, The Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and the Iraq conflict have something in common: they all involved American soldiers. In the wars following the Revolution, some of these soldiers came from the state of Alabama and answered the call to preserve freedom not just in our state, but throughout America. These soldiers left their homes, families, and friends behind when they went to serve in the military. While they were gone, their wives and children missed them and had to do a lot of work themselves that the man of the house was no longer around to do. If a soldier died, the wife was left on her own with the responsibility of raising and providing for her children. The death of a soldier was not only something that family and friends grieved over, but it most often meant that a family's one and only source of income was gone. Soldiers died from combat wounds, accidents, and diseases during each war. Each soldier from Alabama who died left an empty place in his family and community.

Revolutionary War

At the beginning of your museum tour you will cover the Boston Tea Party and the Revolutionary War. For short videos and general information on the Revolutionary War, visit

<http://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/american-revolution-history>

Civil War

The second war covered in the museum is the Civil War. This conflict occurred from 1861 through 1865. While this was a war between the “North” (Union) and the “South” (Confederate States of America), many states were divided about which side to join. In Alabama men chose to fight on both sides. While thousands fought for the Confederacy, many joined the Union army. For example, citizens of Winston County, Alabama, voted to secede from the state of Alabama and create the “Free State of Winston.” Winston countians wished to stay in the Union instead of join the Confederacy as Alabama had done. The Civil War was not only North against South or Union soldiers against Confederate soldiers. It was a war that divided families, households, towns, and friends. There are countless cases of brothers fighting on opposite sides, father and sons fighting on opposite sides, a woman’s husband fighting on the opposite side as her father and brothers, and friends and neighbors fighting against each other. Unlike all of the conflicts that followed the Civil War, many battles and skirmishes took place in Alabama. As the first link below from the Encyclopedia of Alabama indicates, out of all the wars that have occurred in Alabama history, the one with the most impact on the state was the Civil War.

For more information on the Civil War in Alabama: <http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-1429>

The Battle of Mobile Bay: <http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-1257>

Fort Morgan and Fort Gaines: <http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-1800>

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Free State of Winston: <http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-1850>

For general information and videos on the Civil War: <http://www.history.com/topics/american-civil-war/american-civil-war-history>

World War I

The next war discussed in the museum is World War I. While there were not any battles fought in Alabama, there were aspects of the war that were felt by Alabama citizens. Many of Alabama’s men went overseas and fought in the war. Some paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom: they were killed in battle and never came back home. Here in Alabama many women lost their husbands, brothers, and sons in the war. Most people would have known someone who was away fighting, and many would have known at least one person who was killed. That applied not only to World War I, but to every war that followed. For information about World War I in Alabama:

<http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-1545>

Marine Corps

The next section of the museum deals with the Marine Corps. Medals and uniforms are displayed. For information on the history of the Marine Corps and what it does: <http://www.marines.com/history/heritage/timeline>

Air Force

The next section of the museum deals with the Air Force. For information on the history of the Air Force and what it does, go to <http://www.airforce.com/learn-about/history/>

Navy

The next section of the museum deals with the Navy. Medals, uniforms, and artifacts are displayed. For information about the history of the Navy and its operations, go to: <http://www.navy.com/about/history.html>

World War II

World War II saw thousands of American soldiers and thousands of Alabamians go to war overseas. Women helped with the war effort by serving in such positions as munitions and factory workers, nurses, and Red Cross volunteers. World War II was the first war in which the government made rationing of war-related materials and food mandatory. The government issued ration books that dictated how much of items such as sugar, flour, coffee, and gas could be purchased in a certain time period. If you used all of your ration stamps, you could not buy any more of those items until another book was issued to you.

For information about World War II in Alabama: <http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-1348>

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For general information and videos about World War II: <http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/world-war-ii-history>

Rationing in World War II: <http://www.history.com/news/hungry-history/food-rationing-in-wartime-america>

For primary sources on rationing: <http://www.nationalww2museum.org/learn/education/for-teachers/primary-sources/rationing.html>

Korean War

The next section of the museum deals with the Korean War and honors veterans from that conflict. For videos and general information about the Korean War: <http://www.history.com/topics/korean-war>

Vietnam War

The next section of the museum deals with the Vietnam War, which was unpopular with the American people. The war was also unsuccessful, with thousands of American lives lost and nothing gained in return for the sacrifice. Veterans of this war did not receive the appreciation and respect they

deserved for their sacrifices, partly due to the unpopularity of the war and the wish to forget an American war failure.

Alabama specific source: <http://www.alabamamoments.alabama.gov/sec64det.html>

For videos and general history on the war: <http://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/vietnam-war-history/print>

Persian Gulf War

The next section of the museum deals with the Persian Gulf War that took place during the George H.W. Bush administration. For videos and information about this war, see <http://www.history.com/topics/persian-gulf-war>

Iran-Iraq War

The Iran-Iraq War is covered in the next section of the museum. It is a conflict that many children in the classroom may know about due to the service of their parents or other close family members in this conflict. For videos and information about the Iran-Iraq War: <http://www.history.com/topics/iran-iraq-war>

Women during Wartime

A section of the museum is dedicated to women and the various roles that they served in during war time. For information about this subject see http://www.history.org/history/teaching/enewsletter/volume7/images/nov/women_military_timeline.pdf

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Vocabulary List



Ally/Allied Forces - Two or more states or countries joining together to fight a common enemy.

Armed - To have weapons such as guns or bombs. In war these weapons are used against your enemy.

Bravery - To face a bad or dangerous situation without running or backing down.

Casualties - A military person lost through death, wounds, injury, sickness, internment, or capture or through being missing in action. A second definition is a person or thing lost or destroyed. Soldiers no longer able to fight are considered casualties.

Comrade - A fellow soldier who is on the same side as you are. Comrade can also mean “friend.”

Conflict - A fight between two or more nations. War is sometimes called a conflict. **Defeat** – To not win a fight is to suffer defeat.

Dog tags - Made of metal and kept on a chain, dog tags have soldiers' names and serial numbers so the soldiers can be identified if captured or killed. All soldiers have dog tags.

Freedom - Being free to make decisions for yourself without a government forcing you to do things against your will. However, a person cannot do things that take away another person's freedom, such as murder or other things that are against the law.

Medal - A decorative object made of different metals such as bronze or gold and given to soldiers to thank them for good or heroic service and sacrifice.

Missing in Action - This means a soldier cannot be found. It is not known if the soldier is dead, captured, or what happened during a battle.

Orders - A command, or being told to do something.

Patriotism - Love for or loyalty to your country.

Prisoner - If you are captured and held against your will by the enemy, you are a prisoner.

Rank - A person's position or standing in a hierarchy. Also a degree or position of dignity, eminence, or excellence. The military is arranged by rank. Privates have the least authority and generals have the most, with several ranks in between.

Rebel - Opposing or taking up arms against a government or ruler. The Revolutionary War and American Civil War are two examples of people in America rebelling against their government.

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Respect - An act of giving particular attention or showing consideration. Also could be defined as having a high or special regard. Soldiers and veterans deserve to be treated politely. Soldiers risk their lives for us and they deserve our appreciation and respect.

Sacrifice - Something given up or lost. Many veterans have paid the highest sacrifice by giving their lives in return for keeping our nation free.

Salute - A sign of respect. Soldiers always salute another soldier with a higher rank when they meet.

Soldier - A person who is serving in the military, especially in the army.

Trenches - Similar to deep ditches, trenches were used by soldiers to hold a spot on a battle field. Being down in a trench kept a soldier safer from enemy fire than being out in the open.

Uniform - Clothing of a unique design worn by members of a group and serving as a way to tell a group apart from another. Branches of the military such as the Navy, Army, and Marines all have different uniforms that identify members as being with their group or branch of service.

Veteran - A former member of the armed forces. A war veteran is someone who has been involved in battle.

Victory - To overcome the enemy, to win against the enemy is to achieve victory.

War - Usually open and publicly announced armed disagreement between states (like during the Civil War) or nations (such as the United States and Germany).

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Choose the correct word from this list to fill in the blanks. Words will only be used once.

Courage South (Confederate) Infantry Dog Tags P.O.W. Patriotism North (Union) Respect

Cavalry Rationing

Air Force Orders Navy Soldiers Freedom 1. _____ is not free.

2. _____ sacrifice their lives for freedom.

3. Soldiers are expected to follow _____.

4. Each soldier has _____ with his name and identifying information on them.

5. It takes _____ to be a soldier.

6. In the Civil War, the _____ fought against the _____. The North (Union) won.

7. Love for and loyalty to your country is called _____.
8. Veteran's Day gives us a chance to pay our _____ and show appreciation to service members.
9. Soldiers in the _____ rode on horseback.
10. During World War II, the government ordered _____ to stretch war time supplies.
11. The _____ uses planes to do their job.
12. A private of the _____ would have marched on foot.
13. The _____ uses ships in combat.
14. A _____ is a prisoner of war.

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Choose the correct word from this list to fill in the blanks. Words will only be used once.

Courage South (Confederate) Infantry Dog Tags P.O.W. Patriotism North (Union) Respect
Cavalry Air Force Orders Navy Soldiers Freedom Rationing

1. Freedom is not free.
2. Soldiers sacrifice their lives for freedom.
3. Soldiers are expected to follow orders.
4. Each soldier has dog tags with his name and identifying information on them.
5. It takes courage to be a soldier.
6. In the Civil War, the North (Union) fought against the South (Confederate). The North (Union) won.
7. Love for and loyalty to your country is called patriotism.

8. Veteran's Day gives us a chance to pay our respect to and show appreciation for service members.
9. Soldiers in the cavalry rode on horseback.
10. During World War II, the government ordered rationing to stretch war time supplies.
11. The Air force uses planes to do their job.
12. A private of the Infantry would have marched on foot.
13. The Navy uses ships in combat.
14. A P.O.W. is a prisoner of war.

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Activity: During the Trip

Have students bring pencils and notebooks with them. Before beginning the tour, give students the following questions to be answered as the tour progresses.

Revolutionary War Section:

1. Draw a picture of the tea bricks. Think about what it would have been like to be a part of the Boston Tea Party.
2. Why was the Revolutionary War fought? What caused it, and what countries were involved?

Civil War Section:

1. What is the total number of men killed or wounded in the Civil War?
2. Who fought the Civil War?

World War I Section:

1. What countries were involved in World War I?
2. Draw a set of World War I dog tags.

Communications:

1. How would a mirror have been used for communication?

Marines and Navy Sections:

1. Which branch of the service has green uniforms? Which has blue?
2. Notice that there are many different medals displayed in this section. Ask your tour guide what they were awarded for. Write down a description of one.

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3. Are officers' uniforms different from soldiers' uniforms?

World War II Section

1. What countries were involved in this war?
2. How many years did World War II last?

Korea Section

1. What, to you, is the most interesting artifact in this section?

Vietnam Section

1. What countries were involved in this war?

Women in the Military Section

1. What did women do to help in war time before they served in the military?

Kitchen Section

1. Name at least two items that you have in your kitchen at home that you do not see here.
2. Name something about this kitchen that you don't have at home.

Guns Section (Center of the Room)

1. Name at least two different guns on display here.
2. Find the oldest gun and write down the name and the year it was made. You may need to ask a museum guide to help you find it.

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15

Activity Before or After the Tour:

Draw a line to match the picture with the correct word.



Uncle
Sam Kepi



Prisoner



World War II



Victory Medal

Bronze Star Medal Cannon



Brogans

16

17

18

19

After Visiting the Museum:

Answer the following questions with True or False (T/F)

1. ___ Freedom is free -- there is not a price tag attached.
2. ___ The flag of our nation is red, white, and blue.
3. ___ Our National Anthem is the Star Spangled Banner, written by Francis Scott Key. 4.
___ During the Civil War, Confederate soldiers wore green uniforms.
5. ___ During the Civil War, Union soldiers wore blue uniforms.
6. ___ Soldiers have always been able to have all of the comforts of home during war time. 7.
___ Today the American flag has 48 stars on it.
8. ___ Alvin York was from Kansas.
9. ___ There were no guns in the museum.
10. ___ World War I is represented at the museum.
11. ___ There are uniforms from different branches of the service and different wars at the museum.
12. ___ The exhibit of a war era kitchen had a wood stove.
13. ___ The Revolutionary War did not begin in Alabama.
14. ___ There were no American flags in the museum.
15. ___ There are swords and sabers in the museum.
16. ___ The exhibit of a war era kitchen has examples of war propaganda posters.
17. ___ "Uncle Sam" is a name used to refer to the government.
18. ___ Cell phones were used during World War II for communication.

19. ___ The telegraph was used during the Civil War for communication.
20. ___ War is not a game, but a serious situation where two or more “enemies” are fighting each other.

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Answer Key:

1. F Freedom is free -- there is not a price tag attached.
2. T The flag of our nation is red, white, and blue.
3. T Our National Anthem is the Star Spangled Banner, written by Francis Scott Key. 4.
- F During the Civil War, Confederate soldiers wore green uniforms.
5. T During the Civil War, Union soldiers wore blue uniforms.
6. F Soldiers have always been able to have all of the comforts of home during war time. 7.
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18. F Cell phones were used during World War II for communication.
19. T The telegraph was used during the Civil War for communication.
20. T War is not a game, but a serious situation where two or more “enemies” are fighting each

other.

After Visiting the Museum:



Answer the following questions with complete sentences.

1. Think about the uniforms you saw at the museum. Which ones do you like the best? (Example: Army, Navy ...) Why?

2. After visiting the museum and learning about what soldiers and service members have done for our country, in your own words, what does freedom mean to you? _____

3. What part of the museum did you enjoy the most? Why? _____

4. What was the most interesting fact you learned? _____

5. On the American Flag, what do the 50 stars stand for? What do the 13 stripes stand for?

Coloring Page Alabama State Flag



**After Visiting the Museum:**

This is an activity to assist students in understanding the concept of rationing. Use the following documents to engage your students in a class discussion.

What would it be like to not have the ability to buy everything you want? In addition to limiting the amount of certain foods, gas was rationed, too. Road trips for vacations or visiting relatives would have

been out of the question. What do students feel would be the worst problem with rationing? What would they hate to do without the most?



Image Courtesy of UNA Collier Library Archives and Special Collections



Image Courtesy of UNA Collier Library Archives and Special Collections

GRADE(S): 3-5

Technology Education (2009)

8.) Collect information from a variety of digital sources.

FOURTH GRADE

Social Studies: Alabama Studies (2010)

7.) Explain reasons for Alabama's secession from the Union, including sectionalism, slavery, states' rights, and economic disagreements.

- Identifying Alabama's role in the organization of the Confederacy, including hosting the secession convention and the inauguration ceremony for leaders

8.) Explain Alabama's economic and military role during the Civil War.

Examples: economic – production of iron products, munitions, textiles, and ships

military – provision of military supplies through the Port of Mobile

- Recognizing military leaders from Alabama during the Civil War
- Explaining economic conditions as a result of the Civil War, including the collapse of the economic structure, destruction of the transportation infrastructure, and high casualty rates.

11.) Describe the impact of World War I on Alabamians, including the migration of African Americans from Alabama to the North and West, utilization of Alabama's military installations and training facilities, and increased production of goods for the war effort.

● Recognizing Alabama participants in World War I, including Alabama's 167th Regiment of the Rainbow Division ● Identifying World War I technologies, including airplanes, machine guns, and chemical warfare 13.) Describe the economic and social impact of World War II on Alabamians, including entry of women into the workforce, increase in job opportunities, rationing, utilization Alabama's military installations, military recruitment, the draft, and a rise in racial consciousness.

● Recognizing Alabama participants in World War II, including the Tuskegee Airmen and women in the military 15.) Identify major world events that influence Alabama since 1950, including the Korean Conflict, the Cold War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, and the War on Terrorism.



Sandy Thompson
Director of the Alabama Veteran's Museum

Jim Watson
Alabama Veterans Museum Volunteer Tour Guide

Created by Kayla Scott
Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area

The Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area was designated by Congress in 2009 to promote cultural tourism by education, preservation and conservation of the heritage and culture of the six northwest Alabama counties of the Tennessee River basin: Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone and Morgan. MSNHA seeks to inform, educate, develop and interpret visitor-ready sites, create living history experiences and chronicle the evolution of the area's landscape as well as extend these opportunities to the largest audience possible. Congress has designated 49 National Heritage Areas across the country in recognition of historical and cultural significance and natural resources. Operating under the University of North Alabama, in Florence, since 2009, the MSNHA preserves and protects history and culture and promotes cultural tourism within the themes of American Indians, the Tennessee River and Music.

Contact Us

Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area

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Come see us at the historic O'Neal House, home of two Alabama governors

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Follow us on social media

