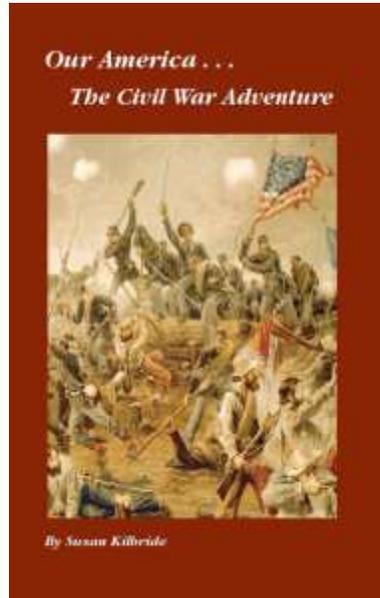


Activities to Accompany: *The Civil War Adventure* By Susan Kilbride



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These activities are designed to accompany the book *The Civil War Adventure*, but they can be used for any unit study on the Civil War.

The Civil War Adventure

Join twins Finn and Ginny as they continue to search back in time to find their lost parents. After adventuring with the Pilgrims, surviving the horrors of both the King Philip's War and the Revolutionary War, living through the Salem witch trials, and searching for their parents on the Oregon Trail, the twins now find themselves fleeing slave catchers during the Civil War. Is this the adventure where they will finally find their missing parents?

The *Our America* books are designed to teach the stories of United States history in such a fun way that the reader won't even realize that they're educational. *The Civil War Adventure* is based on actual accounts written by the people who lived during Civil War times. Ages 10-13.

Susan Kilbride is a home educator who realized that the best way to teach history wasn't by using standard text books but by telling the stories of the people who lived it. For more information on Susan and her books, visit her website at: <http://funtasticunitstudies.com/>

The *Civil War Adventure* is available at Amazon at the following link:

<http://www.amazon.com/dp/1511567686/?tag=funtunitstu08-20>

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Praise for Books in the Our America Series

When I first informed my 10-year-old that I had a new book for her to read for school, she let out a sigh combined with a look like, "Oh, great! . . . That means something I won't enjoy." Little did she know that an exciting journey awaited her. She began reading and within the first chapter informed me that she already loved the book! She was taken away into a world of adventure seeking to discover a mystery. . . . Thank you, Susan Kilbride, for the fantastic opportunity to teach my children about their rich heritage and to keep them excited about learning more.

Tammy Wollner, author of *Keeping His Way Pure*

*My 11-year-old son, who has no desire to learn from a textbook about the pilgrims and memorize boring dates, eagerly read *The Pilgrim Adventure*. A living book, *The Pilgrim Adventure* combines real facts with some fiction to make the subject more appealing.*

Tina from *Newbeehomeschooler.com*

You cannot go wrong with an adventure with Finn and Ginny!

Richele McFarlin from *Families.com*

*This series is great for kids who loved the *Magic Tree House* series but are now looking for books targeted to slightly older children. Written for upper elementary-aged kids, this book includes two likable main characters who love history.*

Pamela from *The Lavish Book Shelf*

Susan knows what homeschoolers are looking for and delivers that in her books.

Heidi Johnson from *Homeschool-how-to.com*

Never mind the mind-numbing and biased textbooks to learn history. You and your children will learn more from reading Ms. Kilbride's books and be far more entertained as well.

Gail Nagasako, author of *Homeschooling Why and How*

I love how Finn and Ginny become a part of the story and participate in the unfolding of the pilgrims' experiences when they arrive at Plymouth. I found myself, while reading it, forgetting that it was also educational! An especially nice fact about this book is that the author obviously knows her facts on the Pilgrims and Mayflower. . . . She very effectively brings these people to life in an interesting way for the reader.

Joy from *homeschoolliterature.com*

*Susan Kilbride, homeschool mother and author, has done it again! *The Pilgrim Adventure* is Susan's first book in her new *Our America* series, and it is a wonderful way to involve kids of all ages in learning about early America. . . . The storyline involves homeschooled twins, Finn and Ginny, in a search for their missing parents. This fantastic search lands the twins aboard the *Mayflower* and eventually the new land. Mystery and adventure keep your attention while historical facts are seamlessly woven into the story.*

Jackie from *Quaint Scribbles*

Thank you Ms. Kilbride. This captivating book is a keeper to add to our early American time period.

Tina Robertson from *New Beginnings*

Materials Needed for This Unit

Candy thermometer with a clip to hold it to the side of a pan

A large cake pan with sides

A metal spatula

A heavy saucepan

A cutting board

A cutting knife

Waxed paper

1 Cup light corn syrup

3 Tablespoons vinegar

Two sticks of butter (not margarine or oil)

3/4 Cup water

2 Cups granulated sugar

2 Tablespoons corn starch

Salt

Flavoring such as orange, lemon, almond, or vanilla extract

Food coloring

1 Cup of real maple syrup

Clean, fresh snow

An elastic (Ace™) bandage

A board or something to use as a splint

Fabric, rope, or a bandage to use with the splint

A square piece of fabric whose sides are at least 3 feet long

Vinegar

Baking soda

A bottle

A balloon

Paper towel or tissue

A piece of poster board or an old folder

Thread

Candle in a holder

Activity 1: Old-Fashioned Candy

Have a Candy Pull

Candy (Taffy) pulls were a favorite pastime in the 1800s. Below is a modern version of an old-fashioned treat.

Candy thermometer with a clip to hold it to the side of a pan

A large cake pan with sides

A metal spatula

A heavy saucepan

A cutting board

A cutting knife

Waxed paper

1 Cup light corn syrup

3 Tablespoons vinegar

One stick of butter (not margarine or oil)

3/4 Cup water

2 Cups granulated sugar

2 Tablespoons corn starch

1/2 Teaspoon salt

Flavoring such as orange, lemon, almond, or vanilla extract

Food coloring

Before you start cooking, check your candy thermometer's accuracy. Clip it to the side of a pot of water so that the bulb of the thermometer is not touching the side or bottom of the pot. Bring the water to a boil and leave the thermometer in it for five minutes. The temperature should read 212°F. When you look at the thermometer, keep it at eye level. If your thermometer reads 212°F, then everything is fine and you don't need to take any temperature differences into account. However, if it reads above 212°F, you will need to subtract the number of degrees it is above 212° from 255°F to come up with the temperature needed for this recipe. If it reads below 212°F, you will need to add the difference to 255°F.

Now it is time to start making taffy! Stir together the corn syrup, water, and vinegar in a heavy saucepan that is tall enough to hold the candy thermometer without it touching the bottom of the pan. Add 2 tablespoons butter. Next, mix the sugar, corn starch, and salt together in a bowl and dump the resulting mixture on top of the liquid in the pan. Stir gently only until the sugar is dissolved, then stop stirring. *Do not let any sugar crystals get on the side of the pan.* Sugar crystals falling into the pan can crystalize the whole mix. Turn on the heat to medium high and clip the thermometer to the side of the pan so that the bulb is not touching either the side or bottom of the pan.

Cook *without stirring* over medium heat until the thermometer reads 255°F when viewing it at eye level. Do not let it get to the hardball stage on the thermometer! This takes about fifteen minutes, but keep an eye on the pot. If it starts to bubble up too high, you should lower the heat a bit. Immediately remove the pot from the heat when it reaches 255°F.

Pour the mixture onto a large, well-buttered cake pan. *Do not scrape the pot.* Just use whatever comes out of the pot easily. *Be very careful when doing this step, this is a boiling hot liquid!* Allow the candy to cool for fifteen minutes. Then, scrape it into a ball with a buttered, metal spatula and add 1 teaspoon of flavoring for strong flavors such as lemon

and 2 teaspoons for weaker flavors such as almond or vanilla. If you would like to color your taffy, add a few drops of food color. Flip the taffy over a few times with the spatula to mix it together.

Once the taffy has cooled enough to touch, it is time to start pulling. *Take off any rings or bracelets you might be wearing.* Wash your hands and cover them really well with butter. Be sure to use butter, not oil or margarine—you don't want the taffy to taste like cooking oil.



Pick up the ball of taffy and hold it in one hand (Hand 1).



Take the other hand (Hand 2) and pull on one end of the taffy. It may not stretch much at first, but as you go on, it will stretch more.



Fold the taffy in Hand 2 back up to Hand 1 and pull it again.

You can do these motions either up and down, as in the photos above, or side to side. Repeat this over and over. Give it a bit of a twist as you stretch it. Do this for about twenty

minutes. You can't ruin it by pulling it too much, but you can ruin it by pulling it too little. If you didn't put food coloring in it, the taffy will gradually turn white as you pull. When you first start pulling it, you might feel like it is too sticky and stringy or just won't come together, but keep going and it should pull together.

Once you are done pulling the taffy, roll it into a long rope about 1/2 to 1 inch thick and put it on a buttered cutting board. Cut it into pieces with a buttered knife, scissors, or pizza cutter. Wrap the candy in twists of wax paper and store it in an airtight container. Because it has butter in it, it will not store well for more than a few days. You can refrigerate it to keep it longer, but it will become harder in the refrigerator. You can take it out again to soften it up.



Tips for Pulling Taffy

If you take the mixture off the stove a bit too early, the taffy will be softer and harder to pull. It will feel like a huge, goopy, sticky mess. Don't despair! It can still be saved. Just keep pulling and manipulating it. Eventually, it will become easier to pull and less sticky so that you will be able to roll it into logs and cut it. The logs might flatten out a bit, but you can form the cut pieces into shape again when you wrap them.

You can put more butter on your hands during the pulling process, but if you do this too much, the taffy will become a bit greasy-feeling when it's done, and it may not set as well.

Make Snow Candy

This winter treat has been made in the United States since at least the 1800s.

1 C of real maple syrup
 1/4 C butter
 A pinch of salt
 Candy thermometer
 Saucepan
 Clean, fresh snow
 A heavy saucepan

Clip the candy thermometer to the side of the pan, making sure that the bulb of the thermometer is not touching the sides or bottom of the pan. The mixture won't be very deep, so make sure the saucepan is tall enough to have the bulb near the bottom of the pan without touching it. Put the maple syrup, butter, and salt in the saucepan and bring to a boil. You don't need to stir it. Take the pan off the stove when it reaches 235°F. Remove the candy thermometer and carefully bring the saucepan outside to a place where there is a

thick layer of clean, fresh snow. Pour the syrup onto the snow in ribbons. Scoop the candy ribbons up with a fork and eat!

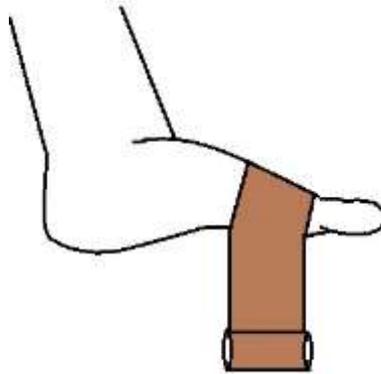
Activity 2: Emergency Bandages

After Gettysburg, Finn and Ginny help the Union Army tend their wounded soldiers. A great way for kids to learn how to help injured people is to take a Red Cross first aid course. You can also practice bandaging techniques at home using the illustrations below.

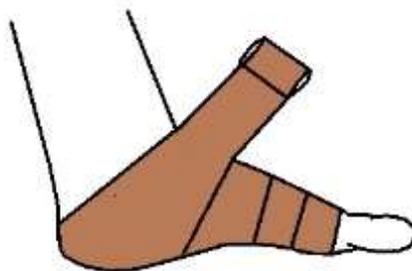
Wrapping an Ankle

Wrapping a sprained ankle can help keep down swelling and bruising.

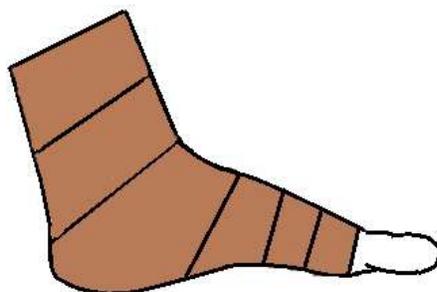
Take an elastic (AceTM) bandage and wrap it once or twice around the ball of the foot at the base of the toe:



Keep wrapping up the foot, overlapping the previous wrap by 1/2 of the width of the bandage:



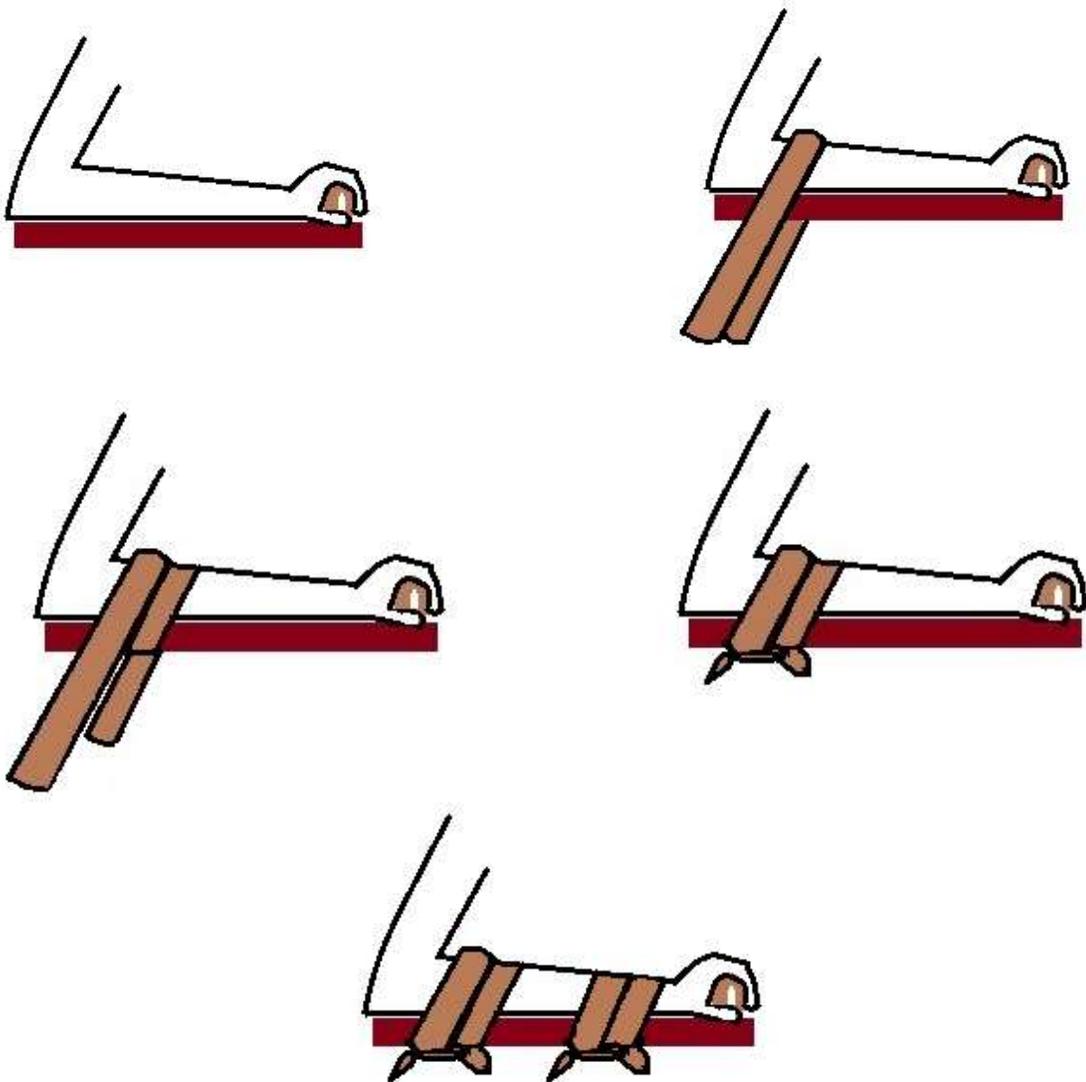
Continue wrapping up the leg and secure the bandage using the fastener that came with it:



Making an Forearm Splint

The purpose of making a splint is to immobilize and protect a broken body part while you bring the victim to a professional to get help. Before making a splint, you should care for all wounds. The splint should span the break—be long enough to go both above and below the break. Splint the arm in the position it was found. Do not try to set the bone or move it.

Find something rigid, such as a stick or board, to use as support for the broken arm. Place it under the forearm. If possible, put some light padding between the board and the arm so that it doesn't rub. Place a rolled bandage or piece of fabric in the person's hand to help prop it up and make the splint more comfortable. Use bandages, rope, or fabric to tie the arm to the board as shown below. Be sure to tie the knots under the board to keep them out of the way of the injury.

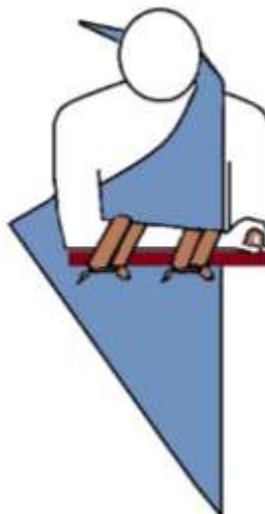


Another easy type of splint can be made by placing the forearm in a rolled up magazine and securely fastening the top closed to hold it in place.

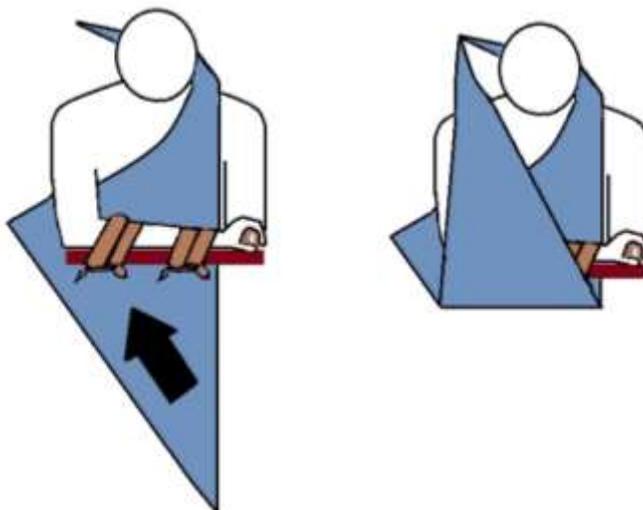
After the arm has been splinted, check to make sure that the arm isn't turning blue or pale. If this occurs, or if the arm starts tingling or getting numb, loosen the ties on the splint.

Making a Sling

Once you've splinted the arm, it will be more comfortable for your patient if you fasten a sling for them. For an adult, take a square piece of fabric that is at least 3 feet on a side (a little larger might be even better for an adult). A shawl might work well for this. Fold the fabric on the diagonal into a triangle and drape it on the injured person so that the injured arm is on top of the fabric:



Next, fold the bottom of the triangle up toward the patient's shoulder:



Finally, tie the two ends at the shoulder into a secure knot to hold the sling in place:



Activity 3: “Battle Hymn of the Republic”

Finn and Ginny learned that Julia Ward Howe was visiting the Union troops in Washington D.C. when she heard them singing “John Brown’s Body.” The song is pretty gruesome, and the person standing next to her at the time suggested that she write different words to it. According to Ms. Howe: *“I went to bed that night as usual, and slept, according to my wont, quite soundly. I awoke in the gray of the morning twilight; and as I lay waiting for the dawn, the long lines of the desired poem began to twine themselves in my mind. Having thought out all the stanzas, I said to myself, ‘I must get up and write these verses down, lest I fall asleep again and forget them.’ So, with a sudden effort, I sprang out of bed, and found in the dimness an old stump of a pen which I remembered to have used the day before. I scrawled the verses almost without looking at the paper.”*

Here are the lyrics to “John Brown’s Body,” the song that Ms. Howe heard the Union troops sing:

John Brown's body lies a-moldering in the grave.

John Brown's body lies a-moldering in the grave.

John Brown's body lies a-moldering in the grave.

His soul's marching on!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

His soul's marching on!

He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord!

He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord!

He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord!

His soul's marching on!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

His soul's marching on!

John Brown's knapsack is strapped upon his back!

John Brown's knapsack is strapped upon his back!

John Brown's knapsack is strapped upon his back!

His soul's marching on!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

His soul's marching on!

His pet lambs will meet him on the way;

They go marching on!

His pet lambs will meet him on the way;

They go marching on!

His pet lambs will meet him on the way;

They go marching on!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

They go marching on!

They will hang Jeff Davis to a sour apple tree!

They will hang Jeff Davis to a sour apple tree!

They will hang Jeff Davis to a sour apple tree!

As they march along!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

As they march along!

Now, three rousing cheers for the Union;

Now, three rousing cheers for the Union;

Now, three rousing cheers for the Union;

As we are marching on!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory hallelujah!

As we are marching on!

(Sometimes this last line is replaced with “Hip, Hip, Hip, Hurrah!”)

And here are the lyrics to “Battle Hymn of the Republic”:

*Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword.
His truth is marching on.*

*Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.*

*I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps,
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence in the dim and flaring lamps.
His day is marching on.*

*Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
His day is marching on.*

*I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of steel:
"As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace shall deal";
Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel,
Since God is marching on.*

*Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
Since God is marching on.*

*He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment-seat;
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.*

*Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
Our God is marching on.*

*In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me.
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,
While God is marching on.*

*Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
While God is marching on.*

*He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave,
He is Wisdom to the mighty, He is Succour to the brave,
So the world shall be His footstool, and the soul of Time His slave,
Our God is marching on.*

*Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah.
Our God is marching on.*

It turns out that the John Brown song itself was written by some Union soldiers to the tune of a song named “Say Brothers, will You Meet Us?” The first verse and chorus are on the next page:

*Say brothers, will you meet us?
 Say brothers, will you meet us?
 Say brothers, will you meet us?
 On Canaan's happy shore?*

*Glory, glory hallelujah!
 Glory, glory hallelujah!
 Glory, glory hallelujah!
 For ever, evermore!*

Not only that, but there have many other lyrics written to this particular tune.

After showing (and singing or hearing) the various lyrics to this song with your student(s), choose a song and write some new lyrics to it.

Activity 4: *The Gettysburg Address*

Not only were Finn and Ginny at the Battle of Gettysburg, they were later able to hear President Lincoln give his most famous speech, *The Gettysburg Address*. In the Civil War days, students were often given poems or speeches to memorize. Have your student(s) memorize all or part of *The Gettysburg Address*:

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate, we can not consecrate, we can not hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth

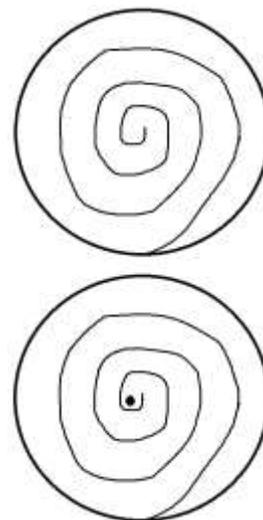
Activity 5: Spy Balloons

Balloons were used by both sides during the Civil War to spy out enemy territory, map out important areas, or to report on battles. The balloons were usually tethered in place and were high enough that the enemy couldn't hit them. Information was sent to the ground either with a system of flags or using a telegraph.

Hot Air Balloons

The first successful aeronautical balloon used hot air instead of gas to get it afloat. It was constructed out of paper and silk, and flew based on the principal that hot air rises. You can do the following experiment with your student(s) to show this principal.

Take a piece of poster board or an old file folder and draw a circle that is about four and a half inches in diameter. Cut out the circle. Now, draw a spiral on the circle so that the lines are about a half an inch apart and cut it out. As you can see from the drawings on the right, the spiral does not have to be perfectly drawn. After you cut it out, punch a hole in the top (where the dot is on the drawing to the right) and tie a piece of thread through the hole. The spiral will now hang loosely.



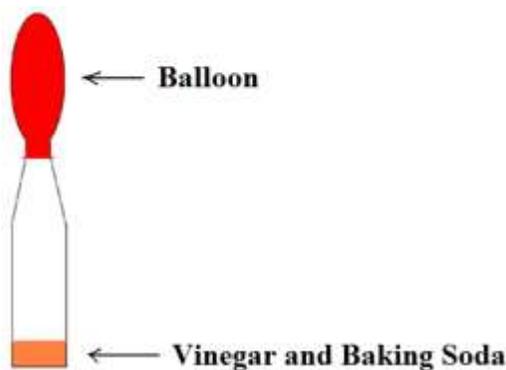
Next, hold the spiral about ten to twelve inches above a lighted candle that is in a candle holder. *Don't place it too close to the candle, or the experiment won't work.* The spiral should start slowly turning. Be careful not to light the spiral on fire! The spiral is turning because the air around the candle is heating up and rising. As it rises, it catches the spiral and turns it.

Gas Balloons

By Civil War times, the most popular balloons used gas, not hot air. If the army wasn't close to a city gas source, then hydrogen gas was made with a portable gas generator that used iron filings and sulfuric acid.

You can use baking soda and vinegar to make carbon dioxide gas in a similar way. However, your balloon won't fly because carbon dioxide is heavier than air.

Take a two-liter soda bottle and pour one inch of vinegar into it. Put a few teaspoons of baking soda onto a small piece of paper towel or tissue and twist it into a parcel small enough to drop into the bottle. Drop the baking soda parcel into the bottle and quickly stretch a balloon over the bottle opening. As the tissue dissolves, the balloon should slowly fill up with gas. Mixing baking soda and vinegar together creates a chemical reaction that produces carbon dioxide gas. It's probably not a good idea to breath a lot of carbon dioxide, so don't put your nose too close to it!^a



^a This activity is taken from the author's book *Science Unit Studies for Homeschoolers and Teachers*.

Praise for Susan Kilbride's *Science Unit Studies for Homeschoolers and Teachers*

If you are looking for quality science units, but simply don't have the time to put a unit together, Susan's book is perfect for you. If you want to supplement your existing science program, I definitely recommend taking a close look at the book. Those of you who might be a little scared of trying to put together your own science lessons for fear you might get something wrong, fear no more.

Jackie from *Quaint Scribbles*

This collection of fun science lessons and activities are designed to offer hands on experiments that will satisfy the curious nature of children, while making it easier for parents to teach science.

Kathy Davis of *HomeschoolBuzz.com*

*If you're looking for a science unit study homeschool program that is easy to use and is comprehensive and worth using, then you should check out *Science Unit Studies for Homeschoolers and Teachers*. I recently read through the book and really liked what I saw.*

Heidi Johnson of *Homeschool-how-to.com*

*I think *Science Unit Studies for Homeschoolers and Teachers* is a good value and provides a lot of fun, hands-on science for homeschoolers.*

Courtney Larson, *The Old Schoolhouse® Magazine*

The conversational style and logical, easy-to-follow instructions certainly make this a recommended and useful tool for any parent; especially those that may be uncomfortable or unfamiliar with teaching science.

Jeanie Frias of *California Homeschooler*

*The wealth of information included therein is amazing and the material is novice friendly. I would definitely recommend *Science Unit Studies for Homeschoolers and Teachers*.*

Bridgette Taylor with *Hearts at Home Curriculum*

Susan's book is full of so many activities that one would have a very full study of general science over the course of a school year if every activity was completed. I teach a General Science class at a local homeschool co-op and I am implementing a lot of the activities in this book into my class this year. There are even short quizzes (complete with answer keys) provided for the older student unit studies. The quizzes are multiple choice in format and cover the main points students should glean from each unit. I highly recommend this book for any science teacher or student. It really makes the teaching of science quite simple and fun. Overall I give Susan's book 5+ stars.

Heart of the Matter

Science Unit Studies for Homeschoolers and Teachers is available online at Amazon.com:

http://www.amazon.com/Science-Unit-Studies-Homeschoolers-Teachers/dp/1463549156/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1310266925&sr=8-1