

Annotated Bibliography - Civil War Era					
Author	Title	Publisher	Annotation	Grade Level	
Rabin, Staton. Illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline.	<i>Mr. Lincoln's Boys.</i>	Viking Children's Books, 2008	"This is the "mostly" true story of Tad and Willie Lincoln and their misadventures in the White House. The boys' antics are a welcomed distraction for their father from the events of the Civil War. The members of the White House staff, however, are not so amused." (reviewer: Terri L. Koehler) Setting: Washington, D.C. Fiction	1-4	
Fletcher, Susan. Kimberly Bulcken Root (illus).	<i>Dadblamed Union Army Cow.</i>	Candlewick Press, 2007	"Yes, it's true! The author retells the humorous tale (with creative liberty) of a "celebrated cow" that marched with the Union Army during Civil War campaigns. Based on actual newspaper accounts." annotated by Kim D. O'Neil. Fiction	2-5	
Giovanni, Nikk, and Bryan Collier (illus).	<i>Lincoln and Douglass: An American Friendship</i>	Henry Holt, 2008	"Award-winning poet, writer, and activist Nikki Giovanni's lyrical text combines with Bryan Collier's stunning cut-paper collages to tell the story of this unique historic friendship." Publisher's Notes. Setting: Washington, D.C. Non-Fiction	2-5	
Taylor, Susie King. Margaret Gay Malone (ed).	<i>The Diary of Susie King Taylor, Civil War Nurse (In My Own Words).</i>	Benchmark Books, 2003	Malone has revised Susie King Taylor's original diary for an audience of young readers. The diary is engaging, easy to read, and informative. Non-Fiction	3-6	
Watkins, Sam. Ruth Ashby (ed).	<i>The Diary of Sam Watkins, a Confederate Soldier.</i>	Benchmark Books, 2003	"Excerpts from the diary of a Confederate soldier from Tennessee, describing the battles he fought in during the Civil War." publisher's notes. Non-Fiction	3-6	
Denenberg, Barry.	<i>When Will This Cruel War Be Over?: The Civil War Diary of Emma Simpson, Gordonsville, Virginia, 1864 (Dear America Series)</i>	Scholastic, 2011	"The peaceful, traditional Southern life that Emma Simpson and her family know is shattered when the Civil War reaches their soil. Soon, Emma's father and brother are called to battle, but her family is confident the South will quickly win the War between the States. As the months drag on, though, the harsh realities of war set in. Death and hardship are all around Emma, and food, medicine, firewood, and ink for her to write in her diary become increasingly scarce as troops from the North march deeper into the South. Finally, even her home is commandeered by the Yankees. Still, with a brave spirit and the knowledge of what is most important, Emma never loses hope that the war will end." Google Books. -Fiction	4-6	
Mckissack, Patricia C.	<i>A Picture of Freedom: The Diary of Clotee, a Slave Girl, Belmont Plantation, Virginia 1859 (Dear America Series)</i>	Scholastic, 2002	An orphan living on the plantation, Clotee fans Miz Lilly and her young son, William, during their tutoring sessions. Clotee learned to read while looking over the boy's shoulder and practices writing in a secret diary, which is found eventually found by William's abolitionist tutor. Clotee and the tutor help friends escape north, a conductor on the Underground Railroad. This young girl coming of age story inspires audiences. Setting: Virginia. Fiction	4-6	
Bircher, William. Shelley Swanson Sateren (ed).	<i>A Civil War Drummer Boy (Diaries, Letters and Memoirs).</i>	Blue Earth Books, 2000	This book is based on the original diary of William Bircher, a fifteen-year-old boy from Minnesota. The selected portions of the diary are illustrated by primary source materials and accompanied by added contextual information, activities, and a timeline. Non-Fiction	4-8	
Forten, Charlotte. Christy Steele and Kerry Graves (eds).	<i>A Free Black Girl Before the Civil War: The Diary of Charlotte Forten, 1854 (Diaries, Letters, and Memoirs).</i>	Blue Earth Books, 2000	The edited, annotated, and illustrated diary of Charlotte Forten, a sixteen-year-old free African American who lived in Massachusetts in 1854, offers a record of her schooling, participation in the anti-slavery movement, and concern for an arrested fugitive slave. Non-Fiction	4-8	
Lyons, Mary E. & Muriel M. Branch.	<i>Dear Ellen Bee : a Civil War scrapbook of two Union spies.</i>	Atheneum, 2000	This scrapbook-style book tells the story of Elizabeth Van Lew, a wealthy southern women who frees her slaves and, with their help, spies for the Union. Told from the point of view of a young black woman in Van Lew's care. Fiction	4-8	
Schomp, Virginia.	<i>Letters from the Battlefield: The Civil War.</i>	Benchmark Books, 2003	"Describes the Civil War through the letters of the people who fought it on both sides, including the voices of women on the front and the experiences of African Americans." Publisher's notes. Non-Fiction	5-9	
Durrant, Lynda.	<i>My last skirt: the story of Jennie Rodgers, Union soldier.</i>	Clarion Books, 2006	Based on the true story of Jennie Rodgers who emigrated from Ireland. Eventually joining the 95th Illinois Infantry under the name Albert Cashier, she was the only woman known to have received a Civil War pension and been given a full military burial. F	4 & up	
Hakim, Joy.	<i>A History of US (Books 5,6,7)</i>	Oxford University Press, (1944) 2007	Book 5 (Liberty for All?) addresses issues of citizenship and freedoms in US History, Book 6 (War, Terrible War) is about the Civil War itself, and Book 7 (Reconstructing America, 1865-1890) addresses the aftermath of the Civil War. This series has many color illustrations and is very readable. The side bars, though informative, can be distracting. N-F	4 & up	
Jones, Lynda.	<i>Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker: The Unlikely Friendship of Elizabeth Keckley and Mary Todd Lincoln</i>	National Geographic Children's Books, 2009	In alternating chapters, Jones shares biographical information for both Mary Todd Lincoln and Elizabeth Keckley. Jones draws from Keckley's autobiography as she describes Elizabeth's incredible perseverance in buying her freedom from slavery, building a career as a dressmaker, and forming a friendship with Mary. N-F	4 & up	
Miller, William J.	<i>Great Maps of the Civil War: Pivotal Battles and Campaigns Featuring 32 Removable Maps (Museum in a Book).</i>	Thomas Nelson, 2004	"The war was first waged on paper. Before troops engaged in battle, both sides plotted strategy and tactics on the maps of the day. Knowing the field, understanding the terrain, recognizing the route of assault--and the line of retreat--could determine triumph or defeat." from the forward. N	4 & up	
Osborne, Lind Barrett (with The Library of Congress).	<i>Travelling the Freedom Road: From Slavery and the Civil War Through Reconstruction.</i>	Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2009	Written for children about children, teenagers, and their families, this book takes readers through the topics of slavery, Civil War and Reconstruction. Through diaries, narratives, anti-slavery publications, interviews and other well preserved 19th Century material, Osborne draws readers in with compelling imagery that enhances her gripping storytelling. N-F	4 & up	
Peck, Richard.	<i>A River Between Us.</i>	Dial, 2003	Set at the beginning of the Civil War in an Illinois settlement on the banks of the Mississippi, two mysterious women from New Orleans arrive and change everything for Tilly Pruitt. Through the eyes of Tilly, the fifteen-year-old story teller, the reader learns about racism as well as daily life during the Civil War. Excellent for Literature Circles. F	4 & up	
Whitman, Walt	<i>O Captain My Captain.</i>		This is an excellent poem for sparking a discussion about The Civil War while considering literary devices such as imagery and metaphor. POEM	4 & up	
Allen, Thomas B. and Roger MacBride Allen.	<i>Mr. Lincoln's High-Tech War: How the North Used the Telegraph, Railroads, Surveillance Balloons, Iron-Clads, High-Powered Weapons, and More to Win the Civil War.</i>	National Geographic, 2009	This book includes many different images of primary sources (photographs, illustrations, and political cartoons) and rich text as it details a wide variety of technological innovations used by the North during the Civil War. N-F	5 & up	
Lester, Julius.	<i>To Be a Slave.</i>	Puffin, 2000	"Using writings and interviews of slaves as primary sources, the author chronicles their capture, transport, and enslavement in the South during and after the Civil War. The book is a rich source for role-playing activities and serves as an example of the differences between primary and secondary sources." (Fairfield Museum and History Center) N-F	5 & up	
Lewis, J. Patrick.	<i>The Brothers' War: Civil War Voices in Verse.</i>	National Geographic Society, 2007	"Illustrated with photographs. Letters and writings of soldiers and civilians, Northerners and Southerners, the famous and not so famous, as well as pictures and verse, expose the emotional side of war. Table of Contents, Timeline, Map, Author's Notes on Poems, Bibliography, A Note on Photography." annotation by Linda K. Graham. N-F	5 & up	
Armstrong, Jennifer.	<i>Photo by Brady: a picture of the Civil War.</i>	Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2005	Brady hired a team of photographers to accompany soldiers throughout the war. The photographers traveled in wagons that contained all their supplies and served as their mobile darkrooms. Just as Brady had envisioned, Armstrong uses these photographs to recreate moments in time during the Civil War. N-F	6 & up	
Heald, Bruce D.	<i>New Hampshire in the Civil War (The Civil War History Series).</i>	Arcadia Publishing, 2001	This is essentially a pictorial representation of New Hampshire's involvement in the Civil War and is a collection of annotated photographs, maps, illustrations, and posters. N-F	6 & up	
Landon, Roberta.	<i>The Illustrated Gettysburg Address.</i>	Gramercy Books, 2000	Lincoln's full speech accompanied with graphics. N-F	6 & up	
Rinaldi, Ann.	<i>Leigh Ann's War.</i>	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, 2009	Leigh Ann was just eleven years old and living in Georgia when the Civil War begins. Yankee soldiers find her working in her family's cotton mill, burn the mill and arrest her as a traitor. By fourteen, she is dressed as a boy and serving Sergeant Mulholland as a "bummer". F	6 & up	
Wells, Rosemary.	<i>Red Moon at Sharpsburg.</i>	Speak, 2007	This is a very well written, engaging novel that addresses issues of gender roles, class, 19th century medical practices, loyalty, slavery, and the dark realities of the impact of the Civil War on the southern state of Virginia. This book works well for Literature Circles and offers lots of fodder for small group discussions. F	6 & up	
Bolden, Tonya.	<i>Cause: Reconstruction America, 1863-1877.</i>	Alfred A. Knopf, 2005	This book has a simple and clear layout and includes both text and numerous types of primary sources. Bolden includes Native American and women's perspectives as well as those of politician and freed blacks. N-F	7 & up	
McPherson, James M. (ed).	<i>Atlas of the Civil War</i>	Running Press, 2005	McPherson offers pages filled with sketches, maps, photographs, direct quotes, and descriptive text as he details battles, military strategies, and the human experience during the Civil War. N-F	8 & up	
Colle, Joseph D. Jr.	<i>First Vermont Cavalry in the Civil War.</i>	McFarland, 2009	"This book chronicles the regiment, from its first recruitment and training through its final participation at Appomattox. It draws heavily on primary sources to tell about the engagements and experiences of both the leaders and the rank and file of this highly regarded regiment. Illustrated, bibliography, index." (Vermont Historical Society) N-F	11 & up	
Grissom, Kathleen.	<i>The Kitchen House.</i>	Simon and Schuster, 2010	Seven-year-old Lavinia, orphaned while on board a ship from Ireland with her family, becomes an indentured servant of the ship's captain who owns a tobacco plantation. Essentially raised by the slaves of the kitchen house, Belle, the master's illegitimate daughter, and Mama weave their way into the reader's heart. As she grows, Lavinia finds herself in two very different worlds--being a white slave child who will someday be emancipated and expected to have slaves of her own. The suspense in The Kitchen House makes it impossible to put down as these unforgettable characters unveil the struggle of living in confusing times. F	11 & up	
McKone, William L.	<i>Vermont's Irish Rebel: Capt. John Lonergan.</i>	Brewster River Press, 2010	"John Lonergan left Ireland during the Irish famine and grew up in Burlington, Vermont. He formed the "Irish Company," which fought for the Union during the Civil War. Captain Lonergan was awarded the Medal of Honor for his action at Gettysburg. He also fought in the Irish invasions of Canada in 1866 and 1870. Notes, bibliography and index." VHS N-F	11 & up	
Oliveira, Robin.	<i>My Name Is Mary Sutter.</i>	Penguin, 2010	Despite best efforts nobody will admit the headstrong midwife, Mary Sutter, to their medical schools. With the Civil War just beginning, Mary decides to go to Washington City to join the nursing regimen and tend wounded soldiers. With the dream of becoming a surgeon, Mary elbows her way into the Union Hotel, which becomes one of the many war hospitals and begins to the receive training she desires--but not without great sacrifice and a little regret. Setting: Albany Washington City Manhattan City. Non-Fiction	11 & up	
Olmstead, Robert.	<i>Coal Black Horse.</i>	Algonquin, 2007	In the Confederate south, 14-year-old Robey Childs sets out to find his soldier father. Along the way, Robey must make difficult decisions and is confronted by horrific tragedies. To aid him, his mother has sewn a reversible jacket - blue on one side, gray on the other. This poetic, coming-of-age novel deals with issues of faith, fate, suffering, and companionship. F	11 & up	
Shaffer, Duane E.	<i>Men of Granite: New Hampshire's Soldiers in the Civil War.</i>	University of South Carolina Press, 2008	Eleven percent of New Hampshire's population served in the Civil War. Shaffer works his way chronologically through the war as he describes the experiences of these soldiers. His work, mostly text, is well documented from primary sources to tell of things such as "Old Jap," the canine mascot of the Sixth New Hampshire Regiment, Company I; deserters, fording streams, horse stampedes, anticipation of skirmishes, humorous errors, the high value of mail, and marching. He includes direct quotes, maps and photographs. N-F	11 & up	
Tademy, Lalita.	<i>Red River.</i>	Hachette Digital, 2007	"The intertwining stories of two Louisiana families--three generations of African-American men--and their struggles to make a place for themselves in a country deeply divided in the aftermath of the Civil War and beyond"--Provided by publisher. F	11 & up	
Wilson, Keith P.	<i>Campfires of Freedom: The Camp Life of Black Soldiers During the Civil War.</i>	Kent State University Press, 2002	The goal of this book is to describe daily life for African American soldiers during the Civil War. Wilson also tries to share some of the hopes and dreams of these men while exploring the dichotomy of achieving freedom and being bound by expectations of military service. N-F	11 & up	
Kaiser, Linda (ed).	<i>Civil War Volunteers from Waterbury, Vermont & Duxbury.</i>	Waterbury Historical Society, 2006	"A comprehensive documentation of Civil War volunteers from the towns of Waterbury and Duxbury. Includes military history, hospital records, burial information, GAR Post application information as well as letters and photos. An invaluable resource for researchers." N-F		
McElfresh, Earl B.	<i>Maps and Mapmakers of the Civil War</i>	Harry N. Abrams, 1999	This book contains images of 180 maps that were used during the Civil War. In addition to the information presented each caption, McElfresh also offers biographical information about the cartographers and discusses some of the techniques used in the map making process. N-F		
Rankin, David C.	<i>Diary of a Christian Soldier: Rufus Kinsley and the Civil War.</i>		"Rufus Kinsley was a farmer from rural Vermont who became an officer in one of the nation's first and most famous black regiments during the Civil War. Kinsley's diary reveals he was a dedicated abolitionist soldier who believed that the Civil War was not actually about saving the Union, but about freeing slaves." VHS N-F		