2015 marks the **150th anniversary** of the end of the United States **Civil War**. The National Park Service will have numerous commemorative events to observe the end of America’s most costly war, but we need your help! **On April 9, 2015** bells will ring throughout the country in honor of the meeting between Generals Ulysses Grant and Robert E. Lee at **Appomattox Court House**, Virginia. This meeting marked the beginning of the end of the Civil War, which would eventually restore peace and unity to the nation.

Students and schools are invited to participate in this event by ringing bells along with us on the 150th Anniversary of that moment on April 9th. A historic bell will be rung at Appomattox at 3:00 pm Eastern. Then, with your help, we hope bells will reverberate across the country starting at 3:15 for four minutes (one for each year of the war). Share your event by posting it to Facebook or Twitter with **#BellsAcrossTheLand2015**. We’ll collect your stories to record how Americans remembered this important event. Your posts will also help us write a national story, which you can see at: https://storify.com/Bells2015/bells-across-the-land-2015!

If your park is able, we hope you will consider partnering with schools or the general public to commemorate this historic moment on-site. This packet contains resources related to the end of the Civil War, the surrender at Appomattox, and the continuing fight for freedom that can be used to build on-site programming. Please feel free to utilize any of the sources contained herein with appropriate citation, but do not circulate this packet to the public.

For more information visit: www.nps.gov/civilwar/civil-war-to-civil-rights.htm
Additional Considerations:

It is important to remember that the end of the Civil War may be a sensitive subject for some members of your community. Though 150 years have passed, topics related to the Civil War remain divisive for some groups and resistance to different subject matters can be vocal. Though this should by no means be a deterrent, if you park does not regularly interpret the Civil War era, it is a consideration to be aware of and prepared for. Most importantly though, while these topics can be divisive, they illicit such responses because the changes begun by the Civil War still impact us today. Memories and oral histories are ingrained in communities throughout the country. Families still recognize the sacrifice and suffering of ancestors on both sides. It is a legacy that is both deeply personal and inherently public. In many ways, the Civil War was the United States second Revolution, a conflict that redefined ideals of freedom, equality, and republican government. We continue to strive to fully embody those ideals today.
Secondary Reference Sources

Appomattox Court House

The Battles of Appomattox Christopher Calkins
The Last Bivouac Christopher Calkins
Appomattox Elizabeth Varon

Appomattox Court House NHP
http://www.nps.gov/apco/historyculture/index.htm

The Civil War Trust on Appomattox
http://www.civilwar.org/video/appomattox-the-surrender.html

Historic Postcards from Appomattox Court House, VA
http://www.nps.gov/apco/historyculture/historic-postcards.htm

Online Resources for the Civil War

Interactive Timeline of the Civil War to Civil Rights
http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/customcf/timeline.html

National Park Service Curriculum on the Civil War to Civil Rights
http://www.nps.gov/teachers/teacher-resources.htm?q=civil+rights

Virtual Classroom Exploring the Civil War Experience
http://www.nps.gov/frsp/forteachers

Aftermath & Civil War to Civil Rights

*please note: these books are not appropriate for all ages, but rather important reference works from which to gather contextual information for programming*

Trouble in Mind: Black Southerners in the Age of Jim Crow Leon Litwack
Race and Reunion: the Civil War in American Memory David Blight
This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War Drew Gilpin Faust
A Short History of Reconstruction Eric Foner
Terror in the Heart of Freedom: Citizenship, Sexual Violence, and the Meaning of Race in the Post-Emancipation South Hannah Rosen
Across the Bloody Chasm: the Culture of Commemoration Among Civil War Veterans M. Keith Harris
We heard last night from an authentic source that Gen. Lee has certainly surrendered himself with his army. His address to his men states that the surrender was made in consequence of the immense superiority of force against him and the consequent uselessness of shedding more blood... 

Soldiers from the army have continued to arrive only one who was paroled. A call has been made by Gen. Lilly for soldiers to meet at Lexington and Staunton to proceed South. I presume that very few will respond as the cause is generally considered useless...Arthur Spitzer has got back — He marched three days and two nights, on the retreat from Petersburg, with nothing to eat but a can of corn. — Says he saw men on the road side dying from hunger...For several days past the people of this town and county have been appropriating all the public property they could find — wagons, old iron picks, +c +c — distributing the assets of the Confederate States. What a termination! I am surprised by the general composure — even very complacency. But while I felt an intense indignation against the North, the Confederacy never enlisted my affections or compliance. I never ceased to deplore the disruption, and never could have loved my country and government as I loved the old United States. Yet our cause seemed to be the cause of state rights and involved the question whether or no the people should choose a government for themselves, or have one imposed upon them. With our fall every vestige of State rights has disappeared, and we are at the mercy of a consolidated despotism. What the conqueror will do with us we know not. Pierpont, the "Governor of Virginia," recognized by the Washington authorities, who was elected by a few votes in Alexandria, Norfolk, +c, has been in Richmond, and, it is said, passed a Proclamation advising the people to remain at home, and assuring them that they would not be disturbed. Another State called West Virginia is presided over by Governor Boreman. Nothing remains for us but submission, notwithstanding my strong local attachments, I feel that it would be a relief to get to some new and foreign country.

Jimmy Tate has arrived. He was present at the surrender and was paroled with others. This morning, I removed an ambulance from a late Government stable but wish now that I had not touched it. I do not like to be mixed up with the scramble for spoils. The whole affair disgusted me.
The other slaves who worked on the farm were Old Uncle Booker, Uncle Fendall, Uncle Author, Aunt Sara, Aunt Susan and Aunt Mary. They were strong Christian people; they earnestly prayed each day that the dark clouds of slavery would pass away and they would be as free as their mistresses and masters, and finally in God's own season the time came. General Lee surrendered to General Grant and the Southern Confederacy was at an end. This occurred on the 9th day of April, 1865. On the 8th day of April late in the evening the field hands could hear the boom of cannon and the crack of musketry from the battle field near Appomattox Court House. The old field hands prayed in concert that the Yankees might win the fight. God heard their prayers that they had prayed, not only then but the prayers that had been sent up three hundred years by the negro suffering slaves.

On the 12th day of April, 1865, just before the slaves started to the fields at five o'clock in the morning, Mr. Ward blew the corn horn that was a signal for the overseer to come to the house, as he approached the house to learn the signal, Ward said, "Tell all the darkies not to work this morning but all appear here at nine o'clock." The slaves all knew what was wrong as they had seen the soldiers coming past. That morning at nine o'clock every negro owned by Ward was at the steps. Mr. and Mrs. Ward came out, she crying, and Mr. Ward holding a newspaper, walked to the front of the steps and said, (instead of saying as of years gone by "negroes") he said "Men and women you are as free as the birds that fly in the air." He raised the paper to his face and read in substance as follows: "General Lee to-day has surrendered to General Grant. General Grant had six months rations while General Lee had only three day's rations for his starving troops. So the Southern Confederacy is now at an end and all negroes are free." He then dropped his paper and hand by his side and said to the negroes, Men the spring crops are all in; those who desire to stay and help me to reap will please do so, and I will pay you or give you part of the crop." All consented to stay until Christmas except Uncle Fendall, who said "Massie Tass dis yere thing might be a mistake and den dar rebs might go back fighting again and we might not hab but four or five days freedom and Ise going to take de first day kase I done prayed all my life for it, so goodbye Mr. Tasswood Ward.

Let us hope that our work is done, and that, blessed with the comforts of peace, we may be permitted to enjoy the pleasures of home and friends. For our comrades who have fallen, let us ever cherish a grateful remembrance. To the wounded, and to those who languish in Southern prisons, let our heartfelt sympathy be tendered. And now, speaking for myself alone, when the war is ended and the task of the historian begins – when those deeds of daring, which have rendered the name and fame of the Third Cavalry Division imperishable, are inscribed upon the bright pages of our country’s history, I only ask that my name may be written as that of the Commander of the Third Cavalry Division.

Dear Parents

I received your letter of the 6th about one week ago but had no chance of answering it. there has been no mail come nor goes from here the rail road is not fixed this far yet, we are stationed where Lee surrendered I don't know how long we will stay our Brigade is scatered all around this country there is one Regiment in Lynchburg The rich people of this country went around among the poor and took every thing they had there was some ration of flour and such things gave to the poor when our army went back after the surrender and there was bands of eight or ten went around and took it all and the old horses that were left they took from the poor. you don't know any thing about poor people up ther poor people here are worse off than the slaves I received a lett from Mariah before I left Petersburg they were all well. Cyrus Baughman is the only one that is along from Fayetteville the rest are all at dismounted camp. Forage is very scarce we only get about five quarts of oats a day and no hay and for grazing there is no grass. I don’t see how the people keeps their stock the corn looks pretty well and that is the only thing that does look any thing like. there will be any amount of Peaches in this country. this is a dull place we cannot get any papers nor any thing else when you write I want you to send me some stamps for I can't get any here. from the time we broke up winter quarters till we got here was forty seven days and out of that time we marched thirty three days, so you may know we were traveling a good bit. I must close for this time write soon your son.
Among the incidents, ever fresh in my memory, of this fatal day to the Confederacy, is the remark of a private soldier. When riding up to my old regiment to shake by the hand each comrade who had followed me through four years of suffering, toil, and privation often worse than death, to bid them a final affectionate, and, in many instances, an eternal farewell, a cadaverous, ragged, barefooted man, grasped me by the hand, and choking with sobs, said: "Good-bye, General; God bless you, we will go home; make three more crops, and try them again." I mention this instance simply to show the spirit, the pluck, and the faith of our men in the justice of our cause, and that he surrendered more to grim famine than to the prowess of our enemies.

That day, and the next, the terms of surrender were adjusted: the following day our paroles signed and countersigned; and on Wednesday, April 12th, 1865, we stacked arms in an old field, and each man sought his home as best he might.

I have given in the above a simple, true; and unvarnished statement of facts, occurring during the dying struggles of the Army of Northern Virginia, in so far, only as I was an eye-witness and participant in those events; with no view to laud my own achievements, or seeming to seek an undeserved praise God till I die.

The colored people from all parts of the country were crowding in at the capital, running, leaping, and laughing, the breaking of guns, swords, the prayer for death from men who had toiled and sweated, starved and bled for a cause they loved better than life.


do not know. She was of the class called "poor white," her faded calico gown was worn and patched painfulness with the hope deferred and the sickening terror of what awaited her at the end, we can wait for her, blind and helpless, a minie-ball having passed through his head just back of the eyes, absolutely destroying the optic nerve. How she had made that journey, in weariness and distress, to find her boy and bring him back with her. She found him, sitting there waiting for her, blind and helpless, a minie-ball having passed through his head just back of the eyes, absolutely destroying the optic nerve. How she had made that journey, in weariness and painfulness with the hope deferred and the sickening terror of what awaited her at the end, we can never know. She was of the class called "poor white," her faded calico gown was worn and patched; her cheek was pale and the eyes deep-set and pitiful beyond words. At her side sat a patient figure;
the hands folded in pathetic idleness;

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the sightless eyes closed. His life work done; his young manhood yet in its dawning!

The war is over: and he, blind and helpless as an infant, is journeying to his desolate, ruined home, one among the thousands of the wrecks from the armies of the South! But in the heart of the poor old mother there was still room for a great joy - he was blind and helpless - but - he was alive! She had him safe, and the spirit of her mother love seemed hovering over him and enfolding him with the wings of peace.

Charles Weygant
124th NY
Time Life The Last Battles

The scene in our brigade after General Meade passed was absolutely indescribable. Men shouted until they could shout no longer; the air above us was for half an hour filled with caps, coats, blankets, and knapsacks, and when at length the excitement subsided, the men threw themselves on the ground completely exhausted.

Lee & Grant Surrender
Correspondence

Official Records of the
War of Rebellion

APRIL 7, 1865

General R. E. LEE:
The result of the last week must convince you of the hopelessness of further resistance on the part of the Army of Northern Virginia in this struggle. I feel that it is so, and regard it as my duty to shift from myself the responsibility of any further effusion of blood, by asking of you the surrender of that portion of the C. S. Army known as the Army of Northern Virginia.

U.S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-Gen

_____ HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
APRIL 7, 1865

Lieut. Gen. U.S. GRANT:
I have received your note of this date. Though not entertaining the opinion you express on the hopelessness of further resistance on the part of the Army of Northern Virginia, I reciprocate your desire to avoid useless effusion of blood, and therefore, before considering your proposition, ask the terms you will offer on condition of its surrender.

R. E. LEE,
General.

_____ APRIL 8, 1865

General R. E. LEE:
Your note of last evening, in reply to mine of same date, asking the condition on which I will accept the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia, is just received. In reply I would say that, peace being my great desire, there is but one condition I would insist upon, namely, that the men and officers surrendered shall be disqualified for taking up arms again against the Government of the United States until properly exchanged. I will meet you, or will designate officers to meet any officers you may name for the same purpose, at any point agreeable to you, for the purpose of arranging definitely the terms upon which the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia will be received.

U.S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

_____ HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
APRIL 8, 1865

Lieut. Gen. U.S. GRANT:
I received at a late hour your note of to-day. In mine of yesterday I did not intend to propose the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia, but to ask the terms of your proposition. To be frank, I do not think the emergency has arisen to call for the surrender of this army, but as the restoration of peace should be the sole object of all, I desired to know whether your proposals would lead to that end. I cannot, therefore, meet you with a view to surrender the Army of Northern Virginia, but as far as your proposal may affect the C. S. forces under my command, and tend to the restoration of peace, I should be pleased to meet you at 10 a.m., to-morrow; on the old stage road to Richmond, between the picket-lines of the two armies.

R. E. LEE,
General.

APRIL 9, 1865

General R. E. LEE:
Your note of yesterday is received. I have no authority to treat on the subject of peace; the meeting proposed for 10 a.m. to-day could lead to no good. I will state, however, general, that I am equally anxious for peace with yourself, and the whole North entertains the same feeling. The terms upon which peace can be had are well understood. By the South laying down their arms they will hasten that most desirable event, save thousands of human lives, and hundreds of millions of property not yet destroyed. Seriously hoping that all our difficulties may be set-tied without the loss of another life, I subscribe myself, &c.,

U.S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Robert E. Lee
HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
APRIL 9, 1865

Lieut. Gen. U.S. GRANT:
I received your note of this morning on the picket-line, whither I had come to meet you and ascertain definitely what terms were embraced in your proposal of yesterday with reference to the surrender of this army. I now ask an interview in accordance with the offer contained in your letter of yesterday for that purpose.

R. E. LEE,
General.

APPOMATTOX COURT-HOUSE, VA.
April 9, 1865

General R. E. LEE:
In accordance with the substance of my letter to you of the 8th instant, I propose to receive the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia on the following terms, to wit: Rolls of all the officers and men to be made in duplicate, one copy to be given to an officer to be designated by me, the other to be retained by such officer or officers as you may designate. The officers to give their individual paroles not to take up arms against the Government of the United States until properly exchanged; and each company or regimental commander sign a like parole for the men of their commands. The arms, artillery, and public property to be parked and stacked, and turned over to the officers appointed by me to receive them. This will not embrace the side-arms of the officers, nor their private horses or baggage. This done, each officer and man will be allowed to return to his home, not to be disturbed by U. S. authority so long as they observe their paroles and the laws in force where they may reside.

U.S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.
HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,  
April 9, 1865

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:
I have received your letter of this date containing the terms of surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia as proposed by you. As they are substantially the same as those expressed in your letter of the 8th instant, they are accepted. I will proceed to designate the proper officers to carry the stipulations into effect.  
R. E. LEE,  
General.

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Robert E. Lee’s message to his troops / General Order No. 9  
Headquarters, Army of Northern Virginia, 10th April 1865.

General Order  
No. 9

After four years of arduous service marked by unsurpassed courage and fortitude, the Army of Northern Virginia has been compelled to yield to overwhelming numbers and resources. I need not tell the survivors of so many hard fought battles, who have remained steadfast to the last, that I have consented to the result from no distrust of them. But feeling that valour and devotion could accomplish nothing that could compensate for the loss that must have attended the continuance of the contest, I have determined to avoid the useless sacrifice of those whose past services have endeared them to their countrymen. By the terms of the agreement, officers and men can return to their homes and remain until exchanged. You will take with you the satisfaction that proceeds from the consciousness of duty faithfully performed, and I earnestly pray that a merciful God will extend to you his blessing and protection. With an unceasing admiration of your constancy and devotion to your Country, and a grateful remembrance of your kind and generous consideration for myself, I bid you an affectionate farewell.

— R. E. Lee, General, General Order No. 9
The following pages contain excerpts from various newspapers that reported on the surrender at Appomattox Court House. Their contents reflect the mixed emotions with which Americans North and South confronted the news that the Confederacy’s most successful army would leave the field. Close inspection reveals that many recognized this moment as a symbol of the coming end while others hoped there was the chance for a revived Confederate war effort. Despite the different views expressed in these articles, they collectively illustrate a national sigh of relief as the bloodshed that had ravaged the country for four grueling years finally came to an end.
Alexandria Gazette April 20, 1865

Alexandria, Virginia

Lee took with him Colonel Marshall, of his staff. At about 2 3/4 o'clock the party reached Appomattox Court House, where Gen. Grant awaited his visitor, at the house of a citizen named Wilmer McLane. In the little reception-room were pens, ink, and paper—all the simple paraphernalia of a military conference.

Grant received his guest with the simple, soldierly frankness that is part of his nature. As Lee, calm, dignified, perfectly self-possessed advanced into the room, the Lieutenant-General arose, and both clasped hands. Gen. Lee sank into the offered chair, and within a few minutes both were earnestly engaged discussing the terms of the capitulation.

Gen. Lee desired to know distinctly what General Grant had to propose.

Gen. Grant assured him that the language of his previous dispatch explained all his wishes.

Being completely at the mercy of his conqueror, General Lee was evidently pleased with the liberality of these terms. He expressed no dissent to them whatever. After making particular inquiry as to the private baggage and horses of his officers, he requested to know whether General Grant would permit those among his men who owned private horses to retain them.

General Grant responded that although he disliked to put such a condition into the terms of surrender, he would instruct his officers who would have charge of such matters to see that General Lee's wish was complied with.

Whereat General Lee expressed himself satisfied.

Lee then remarked upon the extreme destitution of his troops. They had had no supplies of any consequence, he said, for the last two days. "Ever the prisoners I have taken from you, general," he remarked, "have suffered from lack of food. I could not help it; my own men have been almost starving."

Grant promptly declared to Lee that he would divide with him. He fulfilled his promise before midnight by ordering rations of beef and coffee for twenty-five thousand men to be sent to the Confederate commissary.
'DON'T GIVE UP THE SHIP.'

The words which are our text to-day, were once uttered in circumstances of as extreme peril, as those which now threaten the Confederate States. Come let us reason together, and see how yet we may save the ship and the cargo, and the honor of the crew. We are not so particular about the fate of some of her officers. We have so often had the task of exploding the air bubbles of the administration party, that the task has lost all the charm of novelty.

We are not ruined, but it will take the most skillful management to bring back the two-thirds of the army that President Davis says have deserted their colors. It will take the greatest kindness and care of the men, and pay and clothing, and entire stoppage of all abuse, to get them to win more victories. It will take more victories—something like the defeat of Pope in Virginia—to get us as good a peace as we could have got then. Therefore, we appeal to the war spirit of the country to arouse once more, not to prolong the war!—God forbid!—but to gain once more a position for peace.

Remember that we may even yet save slavery. We may even yet teach England and France that sending arms and the pauper millions to the North to fight us, is a debt we are able to repay.

When we say we want an honorable peace, we mean that the vote of the people will never dishonor themselves, and that what they vote to accept, be it what it may, will be an honorable peace.
How the News of Lee's Surrender was Received in Washington.

[Special Dispatch to the Boston Herald.]

WASHINGTON, April 9.

Praise Grant, "from whom all blessings flow."

The mighty news of the surrender of Lee and his army was received here to-night soon after nine o'clock, and among the few who are out on one of the stormiest of nights, the enthusiasm is tremendous. People met and embraced each other, and general congratulation prevailed that the Commander-In-Chief of the rebel armies, by his complete submission, has decided that the cause of the Union must prevail and peace reign evermore.
THE END OF THE REBELLION!

LAUS DEO!


TWO SOLDIERS IN COUNCIL.

A GREAT CAPTAIN PERFORMS A HUMANE ACTION.

GLORY TO GRANT!

FULL DETAILS OF THE TERMS OF THE CAPITULATION.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE TWO GENERALS.

WILD ENTHUSIASM OVER THE NEWS.

The glorious news of the surrender of General R. E. Lee and the entire Army of Northern Virginia to Lieutenant General Grant is contained in the New York papers of the 10th, for copies of which we are indebted to Purser E. H. Rockwell, of the steamer "Oceanus." The following are the official orders and correspondence as published:
THE CAPITULATION OF GEN'L LEE.

Rumors of a very painful and depressing character have been prevalent in our city the past day or two, involving the loss by capture of a portion of the gallant Army of Northern Virginia, and the capitulation of the heroic General Lee to the enemy. Reluctant to give credence to these stories of disaster, and hoping against hope that they might prove false, we have refrained from giving them publicity. It is, however, no longer the part of wisdom or prudence to withhold the facts of the case, so far as they have reached us—facts that are gloomy enough in all conscience, but which by no means necessitate our abandonment of the struggle or the folding of the hands of the people in mute despair. Rather should they nerve men resolved to be free to more determined and united action.

It appears that the first considerable engagement between General Lee and the forces of Grant after the uncovering of the Capital, occurred at Amelia C. H., thirty-six miles south of Richmond, where the enemy were repulsed. Gen. Lee subsequently withdrew to Jetersville, a point still further southward, on the line of the Danville railroad, where making a stand behind temporary breastworks, he again gave battle to the pursuing enemy, and again repulsed him, inflicting a heavy loss.
GLORY BE TO GOD!

The intelligence of the surrender of General Lee and his whole army to Lieut. General Grant arrived at this office at twenty-five minutes to 10 o'clock last night. It was communicated in a despatch from Secretary Stanton, and confirmed what we have felt, from the first, must be the ultimate result of Lee's crushing defeat at Petersburg and demoralizing abandonment of Richmond.

To this great and blessed news it is absolutely needless to add a single word. We can but bow our heads in thankfulness to Him whose mercy has at last dispelled the darkness hanging over us, and, as we trust, for ever.
Returning Reason in Virginia!

ADDRESS OF THE VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

Virginia to Return to the Union.

SECRETARY SEWARD'S DISPATCH.

He Declares the Rebellion Crushed.

AND SAYS THIS GOVERNMENT EXPECTS NO MORE PIRATES WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER FOREIGN PORTS.

DETAILS OF LEE’S SURRENDER

20,000 Men Surrendered, and Cavalry, Artillery, &c.

Important Order from the War Dept.

NO MORE DRAFTING OR RECRUITING IN LOYAL STATES.

GOLD 146.

Address of the Members of the Virginia Legislature.
THE WAR ENDED.

Lee Surrenders his Entire Army on Grant's own Terms.

READ AND REJOICE.

FORREST'S ARMY ROUTED.

From our Extra of Wednesday.

We clip from the Cairo Leader, of the 10th, second edition, the following correspondence:

[Official.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, April 9, 9 P. M.,

To Major General Dix:

This Department has received the official report of the surrender this day of Gen. Lee and his army to Lieut. Gen. Grant, on terms proposed by the latter.

Signed, E. M. STANTON.

Headquarters, Armies of the U. S. April 9, 4:30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. Stanton, Sec'y of War:

Gen. Lee surrendered the army of Northern Virginia, this afternoon, upon the terms proposed by myself. The accompanying additional correspondence will show the conditions more fully. U. S. GRANT, Lieutenant General.
Though the surrender at Appomattox Court House symbolized the beginning of the termination of the Civil War—ending years of devastation and death—it left many issues unresolved. 1865 witnessed the passage of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery once and for all. This would be followed by two other Reconstruction Amendments: the 14th (1868), which granted citizenship to freedmen, and the 15th (1870) which guaranteed that the right to vote would not be denied based on, “race, color, or previous condition of servitude.” However, the true meaning and intention of these amendments would not be realized until one hundred years later. To this day, reform legislation is often based on the precedents established by the Reconstruction Amendments.

The following resources can be used to articulate the enduring questions left after the surrender at Appomattox and the end of the Civil War.
Sic semper tyrannis - 22th Regt. U.S. Colored Troops
David Bustill Bowser
http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/98506803/
Harper’s Weekly, 1868

“Tis but a change in banner”
The First Vote
Alfred Waud
http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/00651117/resource/cph.3a52371/?
REPUBLICAN PRINCIPLES

LET US PEACEFULLY FORGET THE CONSTITUTION AS IT IS.
WHERE LIES BURIED CHARITY.

DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES.

OVER AGAIN THE MANIFEST CONSTITUTION WAS.
Suggestions for Use:
Integrating Sources into your Custom Program

Given the diversity of the parks that will be participating in this national event, it is impossible for each location to offer a standard program. However, the sources included in this packet provide a broad range of opportunities for use depending on your situation and desired program needs. The following are suggestions of ways to utilize these sources to integrate them into an interpretive program that both includes the bell ringing experience and provides important context for the event.

A Nation Reacts: Newspaper Accounts of the Surrender at Appomattox

If your program will include a Ranger visit to a classroom, you can print a select number of newspaper articles for students to investigate. Divide students into groups of 3-4 and assign each group a different article. Depending on the group size, it would likely be useful to utilize articles that present a variety of perspectives from support of the war’s end to a call for a new Confederate war effort. Give each group a standard list of questions such as, “What is the main point of this article?” “How does this author feel about the surrender at Appomattox?” “Given the location of publication, why do you think the author felt this way?” “What are the main points the author makes to support their interpretation of the surrender?” Once the students have thoroughly investigated their articles, have each one share their findings with the class. Be sure to ask each group to tell their peers where their article originated from and the name of the newspaper. If you feel comfortable, facilitate a discussion once everyone has shared comparing and contrasting the responses and hypothesizing why these differences would have existed. You can also ask students how they think they might have felt hearing the news of the surrender if they were in the North or the South.

Suggested ages: 6th grade and up
Illustrating a Nation: Political Cartoons & the Road from Appomattox

Depending on the size and location of your program, print copies of each political cartoon—or a select group of cartoons. Break students up into groups of 5-7 and distribute one cartoon per group. Ask each group to investigate their cartoon. Be sure to prompt them to consider the symbolism used in each image. Encourage students with questions like, “What does this [fill in the blank] aspect of the cartoon represent?” “What is happening in the image?” “What is the illustrator trying to say?” While they are working, be sure to walk among the groups and help them through the process or answer any questions they might have. Once they are finished, ask each group to share their image by identifying its source, what is happening in the image (describe it in words), and what they think it is meant to represent. If you have time, and depending on the setting of your program, facilitate discussion after all the groups have shared. Explain that though the Civil War settled some things, it left other issues unresolved. Be sure to point out that many changes started by the war would not be fully implemented until 100 years later with the Civil Rights Movement. You can ask questions such as, “What do the students think the images are implying has not happened yet?” “Why do you think these issues persisted after the end of the war?”

Suggested ages: 7th grade and above

American Voices: Primary Accounts of the end of the Civil War

Distribute 5-7 quotes (or portions of quotes), one per student. Be sure to choose quotes that have age appropriate content (subject matter and word choice). To ensure that a variety of perspectives are represented, be sure to include at least one quote from a Union soldier, Confederate soldier, civilian, and slave. Have each student identify the author of their quote and read it aloud to the group. Depending on the type of program you are incorporating this into, you can facilitate a discussion after all the quotes are read. Ask students to consider what the end of the war meant to different people and why. How would their experiences of war differ depending on their identity and background? Consequently, what would the war’s end mean for them and what would it start?

Suggest ages: 4th grade and above
Since it might be hard to bring the Appomattox story to your park, especially if you are not a Civil War park, try making a connection with your surrounding community. If you know of a local (or somewhat local) unit from your area that was present at Appomattox, try finding their stories and sharing them with your students. This can help them make a connection both to your park and community, as well as Appomattox — even if Virginia is not very close! Depending on your location, you can contrast your specific soldier story with one from the opposing side, to illustrate how reactions and experiences were different for soldiers in the North and South. If your local units fought with a different army and were not at Appomattox, you can tell their story too. How did the surrender at Appomattox effect their experience? Was their unit part of another army surrendered later, or a unit stationed somewhere and unable to go home? Did the local soldiers get mustered out, or, like many United States Colored Troops, did their enlistments last until 1866? If they remained in service, where did they go? Many Federal forces were sent to the South to support Reconstruction efforts and protect newly freed African-Americans from white violence. These types of experience help connect the surrender at Appomattox with the ongoing struggle for Civil Rights. Conversely, some units were sent West where expansion had left the borders volatile and in need of defense. These types of experiences also connect to the post-War United States. You can explore questions like, what might it have felt like to know the war was over but not be able to go home? For many soldiers, the surrender at Appomattox meant an end to the violence of war, but for those sent West the danger was ongoing. What might it have felt like to be one of these soldiers?

If sources are available, you can also compare and contrast local reactions to the surrender in your community with the newspaper accounts provided in this packet. You can explore questions such as: What differences do you notice in how the surrender was perceived? What does this tell us about how people felt about the surrender? How does this differ from [pick one] newspaper account? Why do you think these differences existed?

Suggested ages: 3rd grade and above

For Southern soldiers, a complete list of individuals paroled at Appomattox with unit affiliations is available at: http://www.nps.gov/apco/learn/historyculture/parole-passes-a.htm

Soldiers at Appomattox
Let Freedom Ring: the Long Road from Civil War to Civil Rights

This program can be combined with “Illustrating a Nation,” to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the road from Civil War to Civil Rights.

The “I Have a Dream” speech clearly illustrates the connections between the Civil War and the Civil Rights Movement as well as the unfulfilled promises of emancipation that still needed to be addressed 100 years after the war ended. Assign different students portions of the speech. Highlights are listed on the next page, but you can expand or subtract depending on your specific needs. Before having students read their selections, explain the connections between the end of the Civil War, the Civil Rights Movement, and the fact that though the end of the war witnessed the abolition of slavery, there was still much work to be done to achieve true equality. Be sure to encourage students to listen for moments when MLK addresses this divide. If you feel comfortable, facilitate a discussion about what the students think MLK was trying to say or what certain portions meant and how it relates back to the Civil War. You can ask questions such as: What problems does Dr. King compare to slavery? Why do you think he says these issues are too much like slavery? Why do you think Dr. King said, “the negro is still not free?” What examples does he give of existing inequality? Why do you think Dr. King’s dream is the same as the American dream? Is this still our dream? Do you think that 150 years later we have achieved the dream of living out the creed, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal?”

**Suggested ages:** 5th grade and above
Excerpts from Martin Luther King Jr.'s “I Have a Dream” Speech:

Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand today, signed the Emancipation Proclamation.[1,2] This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity...

But 100 years later, the Negro still is not free. One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination. One hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred years later, the Negro is still languished in the corners of American society and finds himself an exile in his own land. And so we've come here today to dramatize a shameful condition [...]

As we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall always march ahead. We cannot turn back. There are those who are asking the devotees of civil rights, "When will you be satisfied?" We can never be satisfied as long as the Negro is the victim of the unspeakable horrors of police brutality. We can never be satisfied as long as our bodies, heavy with the fatigue of travel, cannot gain lodging in the motels of the highways and the hotels of the cities. We cannot be satisfied as long as the Negro's basic mobility is from a smaller ghetto to a larger one. We can never be satisfied as long as our children are stripped of their selfhood and robbed of their dignity by signs stating "for whites only." We cannot be satisfied as long as a Negro in Mississippi cannot vote and a Negro in New York believes he has nothing for which to vote. No, no we are not satisfied and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream [...]

Let us not wallow in the valley of despair. I say to you today my friends -- so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."[...]

This will be the day, this will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning "My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my father's died, land of the Pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring!"

And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true. And so let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York. Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania.

Let freedom ring from the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado. Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California.

But not only that; let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia.[3]

Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee.[4]

Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi -- from every mountainside.

Let freedom ring. And when this happens, and when we allow freedom ring -- when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children -- black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics -- will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: "Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"
Notes in Transcript:

1. The Emancipation Proclamation took effect on January 1, 1863. Though sometimes described as simply a “war measure,” this Proclamation represented a monumental step towards total emancipation by the Lincoln administration. With the words, “hence forward and forever free,” the Emancipation Proclamation declared all slaves residing in states still in rebellion free and promised that the federal government would protect that freedom. For the first time since the war’s opening in 1861, the federal government stated unequivocally that the Union waged war not just for reunification but also for freedom. Reunification from 1863 forward meant that the country would not return to the status quo of 1861 but that the nation that emerged from the Civil War, should the Union succeed, would be a new, different, and more perfect Union.

2. King’s words here, “Five score years ago,” also echo Abraham Lincoln’s 1863 Gettysburg Address which opened with the lines, “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,” and closed with the admonition, “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.”


4. Lookout Mountain is the site of an 1863 Civil War battle and was part of the Chattanooga Campaign.