

# Richmond National Battlefield Park

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## Junior Ranger Activity Book

# Introduction

## **Note to Parents and Kids:**

The activities in this packet offer you the opportunity to explore the battlefields that include Gaines' Mill, Cold Harbor, Glendale, Malvern Hill, Fort Harrison, Drewry's Bluff and the Chimborazo Medical Museum. You will be working toward a patch or badge that you can display with pride.

Please review the checklist of requirements before starting. Look over the activity pages included in this book. Decide which sites you will visit and what pages your child will complete.

Take your completed Junior Ranger book to the nearest open visitor center. The ranger on duty will check your work and present you with your patch or badge. Visitor centers that are open year-round are the Civil War Visitor Center at Tredegar Iron Works, Cold Harbor Visitor Center and the Chimborazo Medical Museum.

Mail completed booklet to: Jr Ranger Program  
Richmond NBP  
3215 E. Broad Street  
Richmond VA 23219

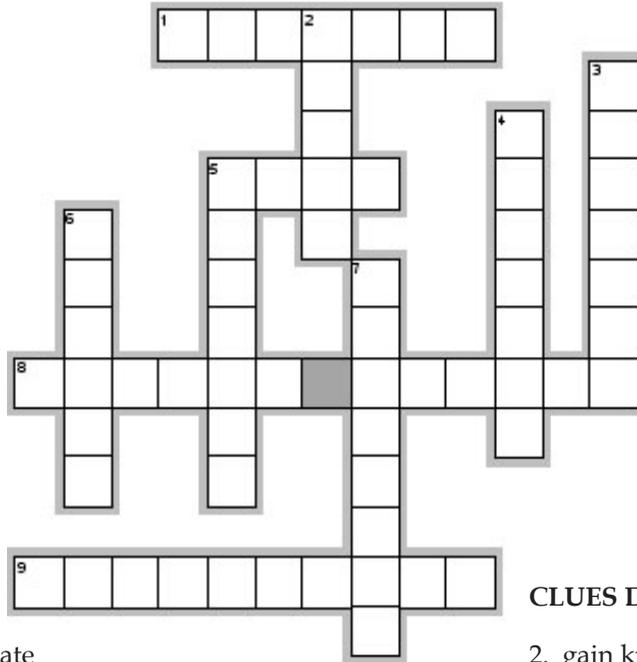
## **List of Requirements--Ages 4 through 13:**

-  1st Corps--Ages 4 to 6. Must complete 4 out of 7 activity pages.
-  2nd Corps--Ages 7 to 9. Must complete 5 out of 14 activity pages.
-  3rd Corps--Ages 10 to 13. Must complete 6 out of 13 activity pages.



# Explore, Learn, Protect

There are almost 400 National park areas that preserve America's heritage. Some parks protect plants, animals, and their homes. Other parks protect historic buildings and places. Some parks protect natural resources and provide recreation. Each lets us see and learn things that are special in the United States. Explore the parks as you travel the nation. Check out the National Park Service website at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).



## CLUES ACROSS:

1. search and investigate
5. a place to have fun
8. land of the free, home of the brave
9. activity involving play and sport

## CLUES DOWN:

2. gain knowledge
3. creatures
4. [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)
5. keep from harm
6. vegetation
7. old and significant

## WORD BANK:

Animals	Explore	Historic	Learn
Recreation	Plants	United States	
Website	Park	Protect	



# Spy

As you explore Richmond National Battlefield Park, try to find the items in the boxes and cross them off when you spy them. The goal is to connect four objects, horizontally, vertically, or diagonally.

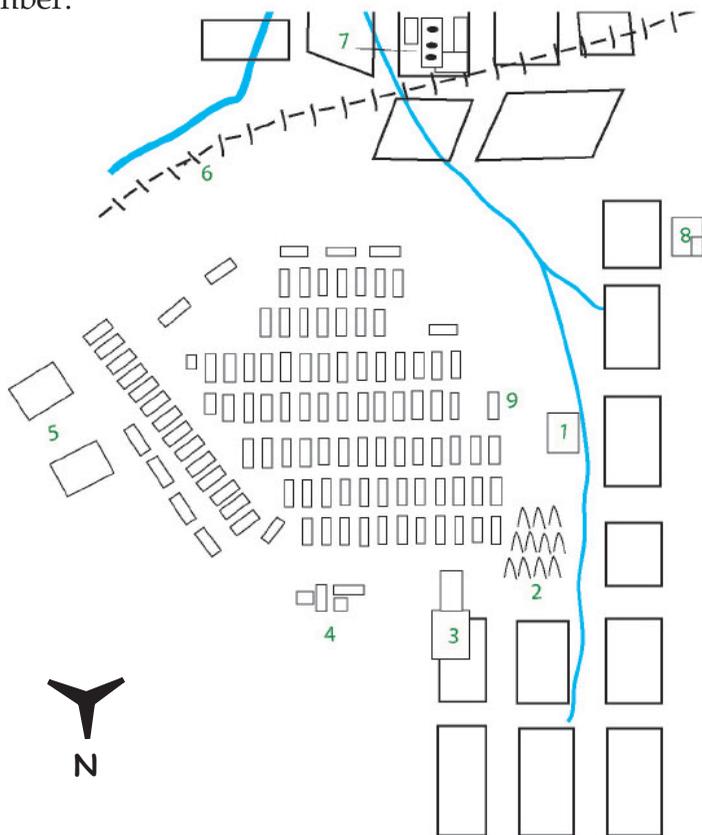
<b>1862 battlefield</b>	<b>Wayside sign or exhibit</b>	<b>James River</b>	<b>Earthworks</b>
<b>Monument or statue</b>	<b>Artillery shell</b>	<b>19th century house or building</b>	<b>Electronic map program</b>
<b>Civil War canteen</b>		<b>1864 battlefield</b>	<b>Civil War cannon</b>
<b>National Park Service ranger</b>	<b>Museum exhibit</b>	<b>Civil War uniform</b>	<b>United States flag</b>



# Hospital on the Hill

**Chimborazo Hospital** opened in 1861 and operated over 75 wards grouped into five separate divisions. Each ward was a hut made of whitewashed pine boards. More than 75,000 Confederate sick and wounded were treated here.

Study the model of the Chimborazo Hospital and label the sites with the appropriate number.



- |                                |                          |                  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| ___ Richmond and York River RR | ___ Headquarters         | ___ Bakery       |
| ___ Stables                    | ___ Home of Luther Libby | ___ Sibley Tents |
| ___ City Gas Works             | ___ Ward                 | ___ Bath House   |



# Plants to the Rescue

Explore the **Chimborazo Medical Museum**. Find the exhibit that describes indigenous (native) plants that were used as medicine during the Civil War. Look at these examples:



**Dandelion:** A tea made from the roots of this plant were used as a tonic to help impaired digestion.



**Ginseng:** During the 19th century ginseng was given as a sedative or tranquilizer.



**Mayapple:** This plant was well known to Native Americans. It was ground into a powder or used as a tea and given as a laxative.



**Pomegranate:** The powdered rind and dried flowers from this fruit were given to soldiers suffering from dysentery and severe diarrhea.

1. Why were indigenous plants so important during the Civil War?

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2. Are plants still used as medicine today? Explain.

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# Family Farms as Battlefields

During the Civil War civilians as well as soldiers had a hard life. On the **Gaines' Mill** battlefield numerous families, including the Watts and Adamses, were affected by the fighting on their farms. Many of these civilians wrote about the battle and what it did to their homes.

Hike the trail to learn about the Gaines' Mill battle. Find the wayside exhibit that talks about the Watt House.

1. How old was Sarah Watt at the time of the battle? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How did the Union soldiers use the Watt house? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What did the house look like after the battle? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What did the house become after the battle? \_\_\_\_\_

Two months after the battle Sarah's granddaughter returned to the Watt House. Here is her account of what she saw:

*Last of all we visited the house. Rank weeds had sprung up even to the doors, except where the yellow clay glared in the sunlight. Even in the corners of the yard there were graves, the garden was another trench said to contain forty dead.*

*The house, what a wreck! The walls and roof were torn by shot and shell, the weather-boarding honeycombed by minnie balls, and every pane of glass shattered.*

*What a harrowing spectacle this, of a once neat and comfortable home, now a tenantless, foul and battered wreck... the comforts of the living and the cherished mementoes of the dead, all scattered and destroyed!*

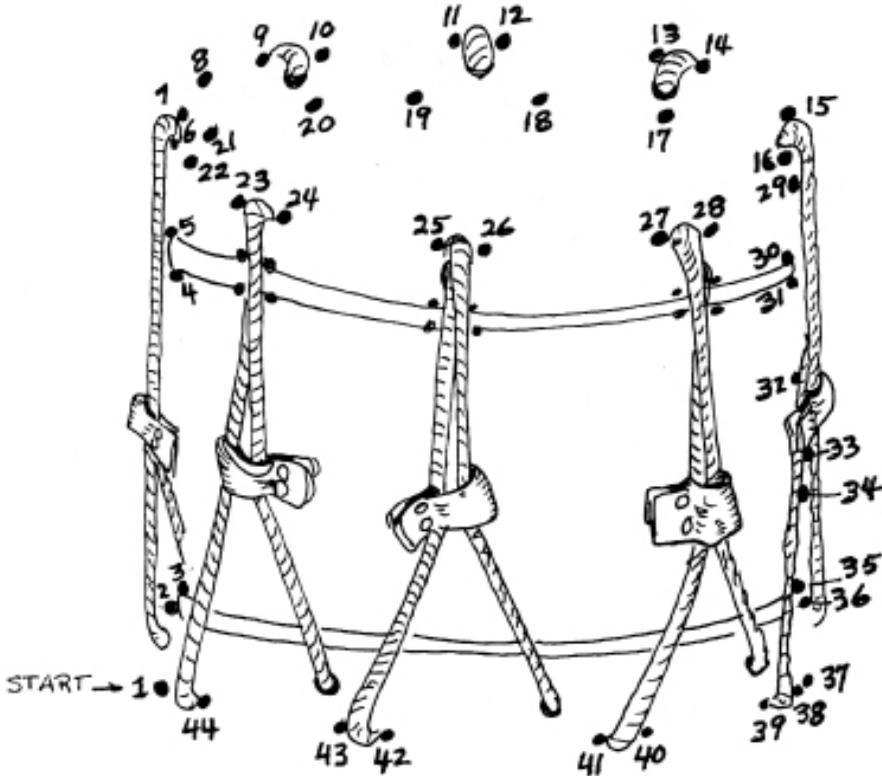


# Drummer Boys

A drummer boy was usually very young. He woke up the soldiers in the morning by playing his drum, cared for the horses, cooked and got water. The drummer's most important job, however, was to help the officers communicate with their troops by playing different taps on his drum during battle.

William "Willie" Johnston was a 12-year-old drummer boy with the 3rd Vermont Infantry. Willie carried his drum in the Seven Days' Battles. The 3rd Vermont was in heavy fighting at Malvern Hill on July 1, 1862. In the disorganized retreat the Union soldiers discarded equipment. Willie was the only drummer to still have his drum when the Army of the Potomac reached Harrison's Landing. For his endeavors he received the Medal of Honor.

Connect the dots to make the picture.





# Faces of War

Visit the Cold Harbor Visitor Center. Find the exhibit with photographs of soldiers who fought at Gaines' Mill or Cold Harbor. Choose a soldier from this exhibit. Fill in the blanks.

Soldier's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

State and Army Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

What I learned about my soldier:

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**Bonus:** Walk in the footsteps of history by taking the one-mile trail that begins at the side of the Cold Harbor Visitor Center.



# Comparing Battlefields

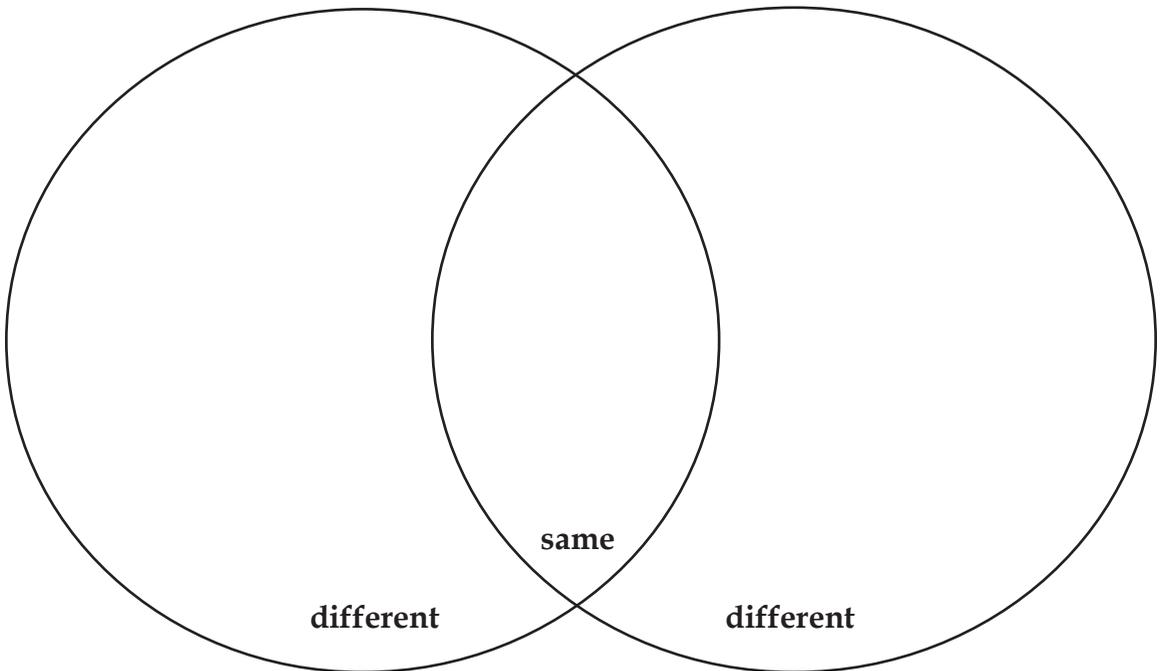
Compare two Civil War battlefields at Richmond National Battlefield Park. Label each circle with the name of the battlefield. Put the things the battlefields have in common in the center. Put things that are different in the outer circles. Some examples: year of battle, casualties, leaders, units



List the two battlefields.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_





# Math and the Seven Days' Battles

Math is important. We use math everyday and so did the Civil War soldiers. Here are some math problems for you to solve.

1. The cannon crew fires a cannon 2 times per minute. The battle of Gaines' Mill lasted for 5 hours. How many times could this cannon crew fire during that time period?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2. The Confederate artillery had 4 cannons per battery at Malvern Hill. Each cannon was pulled by 6 horses. If there were 10 batteries on the battlefield, how many horses were needed to move the cannons?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

# Math and the Seven Days' Battles

3. McClellan's army, including men and animals, needed 700 tons of food a day. How much food was needed during the Seven Days' battles for McClellan's army?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Jackson's army marched 50 minutes and rested 10 minutes. If the army was on the march for 3 hours, how much time was spent marching? How much time was spent resting?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_



# Moving the Earth at Fort Harrison

During the Civil War, soldiers built forts using large piles of dirt called earthworks. Earthworks were used to defend a place or position. In 1862, Confederates worked hard to build **Fort Harrison** and other earthworks to protect the city of Richmond, which was the capital of the Confederacy. In 1864, Union soldiers attacked Fort Harrison and captured the fort from the Confederate soldiers. The Union soldiers built more earthworks at Fort Harrison and completely enclosed the fort. The Union soldiers stayed at Fort Harrison until the Civil War ended.



**Fort Harrison bombproof**



**Interior of Fort Harrison**

To learn more about Fort Harrison, take the trail loop. Stop at the audio way-side and exhibits. They will help you answer the following questions.

1. What did the area around Fort Harrison look like during the Civil War?

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2. What Confederate general directed the counterattack against the Union troops at Fort Harrison? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Union troops renamed the captured earthworks at Fort Harrison. What name did they give the fort? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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## Hopeless Attacks: Fort Gilmer

Fort Gilmer played an important role in stopping the Union drive north toward Richmond. African American soldiers (United States Colored Troops) fought with valor on these battlefields but the regiments melted under the heavy fire.

Read the wayside exhibits and listen to the audio player to learn more about the attacks at Fort Gilmer.

Match the statement on the left to the matching statement on the right.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. "It was the hottest musketry fire I was ever in."   | A. 5th, 7th, 8th, 9th U.S. Colored Troops  |
| 2. Built forts and connecting trenches around Richmond | B. Elliot Grabill, 5th U.S. Colored Troops |
| 3. Constructed in 1863                                 | C. Confederate Artillerist                 |
| 4. "Those fellows fought well, sir."                   | D. Confederate soldiers and slaves         |
| 5. Attacked Fort Gilmer on September 29, 1864          | E. National Park Service                   |
| 6. Manages 13 Civil War sites in Richmond              | F. Fort Gilmer                             |



# On the March

The common soldier of the Civil War wore or carried all of his equipment on the march. Draw a line from the Civil War uniform parts and equipment to things you use and wear today.



## Civil War

kepi

haversack

brogans

tent

knapsack

hardtack

## Modern Day

back pack

house

sliced bread

sneakers

ball cap

lunch box



# Naughty or Nice?

Look at the pictures below. Draw an X over the pictures of people who are **not** following park rules. Are they harming the battlefields, plants or being unsafe?

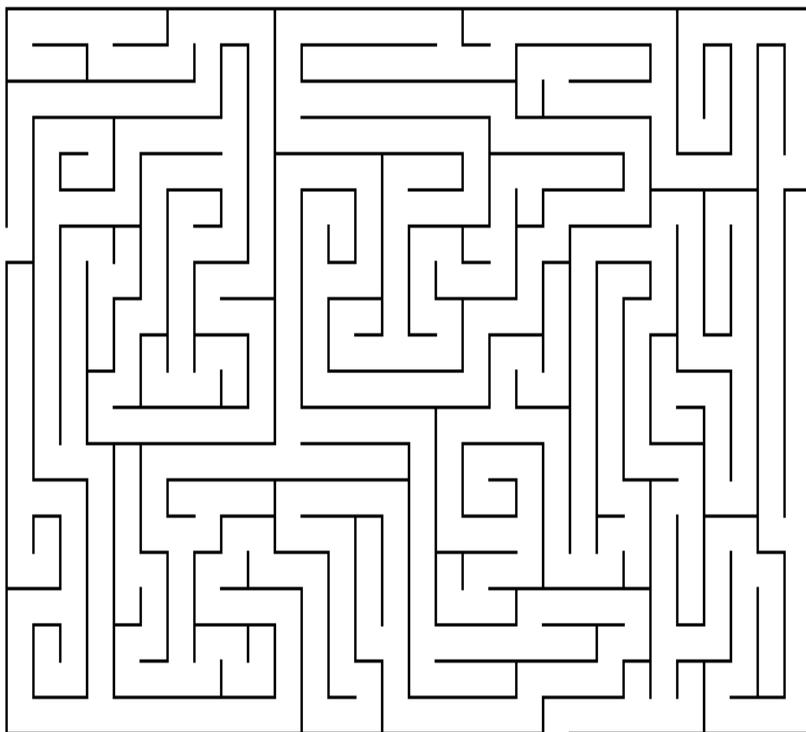
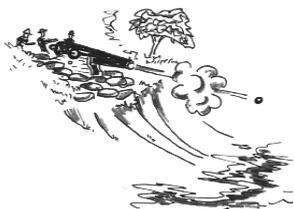




# Gunboats on the James

Five Union boats, including the famous ironclad Monitor, traveled up the James River, but were attacked at **Drewry's Bluff** on May 15, 1862. The Confederates won the battle and turned the Union boats away from Richmond. Drewry's Bluff served as a Confederate Naval Academy and Marine Corps Camp of Instruction during much of the Civil War. The first U.S. Marine Medal of Honor was awarded for bravery during the battle at Drewry's Bluff.

Use the maze to get the cannon ball from Drewry's Bluff to the Monitor in the James River.



**Bonus:** Walk the trail at Drewry's Bluff to find the big gun.





# Drawing Conclusions

Draw a picture of what you saw or did during your visit to Richmond National Battlefield Park.



Why do you think Richmond National Battlefield Park is a special place?

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# Ranger Page

While visiting Richmond National Battlefield Park you may take part in a ranger guided walk, talk or presentation. Fill in the information below.

I attended a park:

a. walk

b. talk

c. living history presentation

The program was about: \_\_\_\_\_

Here's what I learned:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Park Ranger Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

This is to certify that

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has successfully completed the “Richmond Battlefields”  
Junior Ranger program at Richmond National Battlefield  
Park.

Congratulations!



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Park Ranger/Date