Unit 1: Civil War

What students should know:

* Harriet Beecher Stowe’s book, Uncle Tom’s Cabin, and John Brown’s raid on Harper’s Ferry were events that increased conflict between the North and the South
* The North wanted new territories to ban slavery and become free states
* The South wanted new territories to allow slavery and become slave states (states’ rights)
* Fort Sumter was the first fire of the Civil War
* Vicksburg/Gettysburg were two battles in the war and also the turning point for the North
* The Atlanta Campaign was the capture of the economic center of the South
* Sherman’s March to the Sea was the destruction of key cities from Atlanta to Savannah
* Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant at a home in a village of Appomattox Court House
* The importance of Abraham Lincoln, Robert E. Lee, Ulysses S. Grant, Jefferson Davis, and Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson and their roles in the Civil War
* The effects of the war on the North and South

Essential Questions:

* Why did increased tensions between the North and the South lead to war?
* How did the Civil War impact life in the North and the South?
* How did the key battles (Fort Sumter, Gettysburg, the Atlanta Campaign, Sherman’s March to the Sea, and Appomattox Courthouse) affect the outcome of the Civil War?
* How did the Civil War have both benefits and costs for the United States?
* How did the leadership styles of the Confederate Army (Robert E. Lee, Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson) compare to the leadership styles of the Union Army (Ulysses S. Grant)?
* How did Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis compare as leaders?