**Civil War Scavenger Hunt Answer Key**

The students will gain basic information regarding the Civil War by completing an internet scavenger hunt and answering questions on the Civil War as a way to introduce the lesson.

Answer each question thoroughly using the websites provided for you.

1. **What were Abraham Lincoln's views on slavery which made him a "threat" to Southern ideals?  What did the South fear most about Lincoln getting elected?  How did they react once he was elected?** Although Lincoln did not believe that blacks were equal in anyway and he did not plan on disturbing slavery in the South, the Southern states still viewed him as radical. He was viewed as a radical since he did view slavery as morally wrong and did not want to allow its spread in new states entering the union. In fact his campaign called for allowing slavery to continue as is within the states it was already established as long as no new states admitted to the country were slave states. The south viewed this as Lincoln threatening there way of life and eventually moving toward abolition of slavery which they feared. However, after his election and before his inauguration in March 1861, seven southern states succeeded. The Civil War began on April 12, 1861 when the US military located at Fort Sumter came under siege in Charleston Harbor, South Carolina.

2. **Who was the Confederate President and when was he elected?** Jefferson Davis was elected as President of the Confederate States of America (CSA) on November 6, 1861.

3. **Who was the Army of North Virginia’s General and why did he chose to support the South?** General Robert E. Lee was the Army of Northern Virginia’s General. General Lee was a brilliant military mind and a US Army officer. After Fort Sumter he waited for developments regarding the out breaking war. Although Lee opposed slavery and secession, he felt his duty to Virginia would not allow him to accept Lincoln’s offer to become the Union General.

4.  **Going into the Civil War, the North believed it would be an easy and quick victory, not the grueling four year conflict which it became.  What was the first instance the North realized this war may be harder to win then expected?** The first actual battle of the Civil War occurred on July 21, 1861. This was the Battle of Bull Run, fought in Virginia a few miles from Washington, D.C. The battle was Confederate officer Colonel Thomas Jackson, later known as General “Stonewall” Jackson against Union General McDowell. As the battle raged on, Confederate reinforcements reached the battle and succeed in breaking the Union flank. The Union Army made it back to Washington, D.C. by July 22, as a broken force. This battle proved to President Lincoln and the North that this war would be a long and costly affair.

5. **What was the first major battle for the Union during the Civil War?  Describe the effects and its significance briefly.** The first major battle for the Union during the Civil War was Antietam, Maryland. It was General Lee’s first strike in the north as he tried bravely to capture the garrison at Harpers Ferry. The battle began on September 17, 1862 and raged on for 12 hours. It is known as the bloodiest day of the war. On September 18th the troops gathered their wounded and buried their dead from the day before. That night General Lee withdrew back across the Potomac River into Virginia. Lee’s retreat ended his first northern invasion and provided Lincoln with the opportunity to issue the Emancipation Proclamation, giving the war the dual purpose of preserving the union and ending slavery.

6. **Which battle was a major turning point during the Civil War?  Describe the battle and its significance briefly.**
 The battle of Gettysburg was a major turning point in the Civil War. The battle took place from July 1-3, 1863 in the small town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. This battle enfolded between General Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia and General Meade’s Union Army of the Potomac. After three bloody days, the Union army was victorious. Although the battle of Gettysburg did not end the war it marked the ultimate victory of the North over the South.

7. **How did the Union finally break the Southern morale?**
 In 1864, General William T. Sherman, in command of the Union armies of the West, made a decisive maneuver to march from Chattanooga to Atlanta, Georgia and onto the sea at Savannah, Georgia. This march was entitled his “march to the sea.” His march brought the war to the southern home front and created a path of destruction that delivered the final blow to the Confederacy’s will and ability to fight.

8. **When and how the Civil War was finally ended?**
 General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses Grant at the Appomattox Court House in Virginia on April 9, 1865. Both Generals made and accepted generous terms of surrender, expressing how they both felt it was time for the war to end, as did much of the nation.