



The Norskedalen **Civil War Series** curriculum is short look at life in the Civil War era and the perspectives of both the Union and Confederate sides in the Civil War. Students will analyze Union and Confederate perspectives, engage with a series of videos demonstrating life from many different participants in the war, analyze letters from participants on both sides, and finally write a letter of their own taking a position and defending it.

This unit is designed to meet Wisconsin and national Social Studies standards on historical interpretation, and writing and defending an argument. To purchase the Civil War Series, visit www.Norskedalen.org

Lesson 1: Perspectives	Learning Objectives	Resources
<p>Students are introduced to the concept of <i>perspectives</i>, and engage with both the Union and Confederate perspective. Students break down influences into Political, Economic, and Personal influences.</p>	<p>Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how a person’s experiences influence his or her views. • Explain people’s perspectives on the Civil War. • Explain what influences people’s perspectives. 	<p>Videos explaining the background of the Civil War and the Union Perspective of “Billy Yank,” courtesy of the American Battlefield Trust.</p> <p>“Johnny Reb” video explaining the Confederate perspective, produced by Norskedalen with an historical reenactor.</p> <p>Viewing guides and worksheets.</p>
<p>Lesson 2: Compare and Contrast</p> <p>Through historical reenactors, students analyze life in the 1860’s and compare it to life today.</p>	<p>Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare life in the 1860’s to life today. 	<p>Norskedalen video series with historical reenactors, showing: Rifled Musket, Flags, Home Life, Navy, US Colored Troops, Photography, and Artillery.</p> <p>Viewing guides and worksheets.</p>
<p>Lesson 3: Letter Analysis</p> <p>Through letters written by various people on both sides of the conflict, students analyze what influenced their perspectives.</p>	<p>Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine the perspectives of several people impacted by the Civil War. • Identify the influences on people’s perspectives through letters. 	<p>Letters from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confederate General Union Soldier Black Union Soldier Wife of Confederate Soldier Union Sergeant
<p>Lesson 4: Letter Writing</p> <p>Students adopt a perspective and defend it in a letter to another participant.</p>	<p>Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a perspective about the Civil War. • Defend that perspective using historical information. 	<p>Letter writing guide.</p>