

The Civil War Story, Step by Step

Week 29 • Wednesday • Hands-On: Map the Civil War Story

Reading Time

Every big event in history has a beginning, a middle, and an end. Historians use **timelines** to keep the story in order.

The Civil War story goes like this: First, the North and South argued about slavery. Next, Southern states left and the war began in 1861. Then came four hard years of battles and struggle. Finally, in 1865, the North won, the country came back together, and slavery ended.

Today you will build the Civil War timeline yourself, just like a real historian. Keeping events in order helps us understand how one thing led to another.

Reading Questions

1. What do historians use to keep events in order?

2. What year did the war begin? What year did it end?

3. What TWO big things happened when the war ended?

Hands-On: Build the Timeline

These Civil War events are all mixed up! Number them 1 to 5 in the correct order. Then copy them in order onto the timeline table below.

___ The North wins and the country reunites (1865).

___ The North and South argue about slavery.

___ Four hard years of battles.

___ Southern states leave and the war begins (1861).

___ Slavery ends forever.

Order	Event
1 (First)	
2 (Next)	
3 (Then)	
4 (After that)	
5 (Finally)	

Draw It!

Draw two pictures: the country DIVIDED during the war, and the country TOGETHER after the war. You can draw flags, maps, or people shaking hands.

--	--

Fill in the Blanks

timeline

1861

four

1865

together

ended

1. A _____ keeps events in order.
2. The war began in _____.
3. It lasted _____ years.
4. The war ended in _____.
5. The country came back _____.
6. Slavery _____ forever.

True or False

Write T for true or F for false in each circle.

- ☐ Timelines put events in order.
- ☐ The Civil War began in 1861.
- ☐ The war lasted twenty years.
- ☐ The South won the war.
- ☐ The country came back together in 1865.
- ☐ Slavery ended after the war.

Review

I learned...	Circle one
The order of Civil War events	YES / NOT YET
The start and end years of the war	YES / NOT YET
I built my own timeline	YES / NOT YET