Enjoy a guided tour of the Texas Civil War Museum & watch their dramatic film about Texas in the Civil War!
About the Museum:
The Texas Civil War Museum maintains the most comprehensive collection of artifacts west of the Mississippi River. The Texas Civil War Museum is a rare partnership in that it contains private collections and a collection in public trust. Artifact collections total approximately 4,000 items on exhibit.

Along with the exhibits, the Texas Civil War Museum includes a 75 seat movie theatre which hosts the commissioned movie, "Our Homes Our Rights" - Texas in the Civil War.
Museum Visit:

Students will watch:

“Our Home-Our Rights, Texas in the Civil War”

A scavenger hunt will also be an exciting part of this museum visit.

Preview the scavenger hunt worksheet here:

Museum Visit:
Your trip will focus on:
Battlefield Medicine/Doctors & Nurses

At the beginning of the War medical care was crude and undeveloped. As during any war, huge advancements were made with the introductions of battlefield evacuations, hospitals aboard ships, the pharmaceutical industry, medical record keeping, women nurses as well as many other surprising outcomes.
Museum Visit:

**Your trip will focus on: Music**

Students will learn about a variety of music featuring songs, which were popular of the era, camp songs, marches and ditties sung by both the North and the South. Tidbits about the songs are presented to help understand the meaning behind each as well as the importance of music to the soldiers and the role of the musician. Musical instruments vary depending on the artist. Some use banjos, guitars, dulcimers, bagpipes, Jaw harps and spoons.
A Brief Overview of the American Civil War:

The Civil War (1861-1865) determined what kind of nation America would be. The war resolved two fundamental questions left unresolved by the American revolution: whether the United States was to be a dissolvable confederation of sovereign states or an indivisible nation with a sovereign national government; and whether this nation, born of a declaration that all men were created with an equal right to liberty, would continue to exist as the largest slaveholding country in the world.

Watch this video to understand the build up to war: http://vimeo.com/70408284

Visit the Civil War Trust: http://www.civilwar.org/education/history/civil-war-overview/overview.html
A Brief Overview of the American Civil War:
Northern victory preserved the United States as one nation and ended the institution of slavery. But this came at the cost of 625,000 lives--nearly as many American soldiers as died in all the other wars combined.

The Civil War started because of uncompromising differences between the free and slave states over the power of the national government to prohibit slavery in the territories that had not yet become states.
A Brief Overview of the American Civil War:

When Abraham Lincoln won election in 1860 as the first Republican president on a platform pledging to keep slavery out of the territories, seven slave states in the deep South seceded and formed a new nation, the Confederate States of America.

The event that triggered war came at Fort Sumter in Charleston Bay on April 12, 1861. Claiming this United States fort as their own, the Confederate army opened fire on the federal garrison and forced it to lower the American flag in surrender. Lincoln called out the militia to suppress this "insurrection." Four more slave states then seceded and joined the Confederacy.
A Brief Overview of the American Civil War:

By the end of 1861 nearly a million armed men confronted each other along a line stretching 1200 miles from Virginia to Missouri. By 1864 the original Northern goal of a limited war to restore the Union had given way to a new strategy of "total war" to destroy the Old South and its basic institution of slavery and to give the restored Union a "new birth of freedom," as President Lincoln put it in his address at Gettysburg.
A Brief Overview of the American Civil War:

For three long years, from 1862 to 1865, Robert E. Lee's Confederate Army staved off invasions and attacks by the Union Army commanded by a series of ineffective generals until Ulysses S. Grant came to become general in chief of all Union armies in 1864.

By the spring of 1865, all the principal Confederate armies surrendered, and when Union cavalry captured the fleeing Confederate President Jefferson Davis, resistance collapsed and the war ended. The long, painful process of rebuilding a united nation free of slavery began.
Sounds of War:

Music played a large part in the war and was necessary for telling the time of duties in camp and guided the actions of troops in battle.

Most of these musicians were young boys (many lied to get in under the 18 yr. age requirement) who played bugles, fifes and drums.

The bugle has been most associated with the cavalry and artillery, while the drum and fife was greatly used in the infantry. But as the war progressed, it was demonstrated that drum beats and fife tunes were hard to hear over musket and artillery fire.

Field musicians of the Civil War video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMRYTaILXA4
Sounds of War:

In previous wars, troops were massed in large groups and met the enemy as large units in open fields, so the drum was effective in keeping cadence. But in the Civil War it was hard to hear the beats in the fighting that took place in the woods and hills that characterized warfare during this conflict.

Commanders found that the bugle was heard over a greater distance. Many of the buglers carried rifles and fought with other members of their company, but their primary duty was musical. There are fifty bugle calls that are in the Infantry manuals of the time.

Video about military bugle calls: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nhtr5J00ntA&list=PLmAlYBdRbIGmdLceAz29i8YRIEREARd1Z
Sounds of War:
The soldiers of the Civil War knew all the calls based on months of repetition and their constant drilling. On a quiet night with flat terrain a bugle can carry several miles. This is the way that communication was maintained during the war, and in nearly every scenario, a bugler was involved somehow.

Fifers and drummers were often younger than the average soldiers, but the buglers, particularly Chief Buglers, more often were typically closer in age to the officers, and in many cases, mature men. It seems that most of the chief buglers were quite literate and better educated than the average soldier.
Listen to Civil War Bugle Calls

Forward March:

Cease Firing:

Commence Firing:

Halt:

Reveille (1st roll call):

Rally upon the reserve:

The General:

Breakfast Call:

Church Call (Truce):

Officers Call:

Try more on this great website:
http://tapsbugler.com/civil-war-re-enacting-for-the-bugler/2/
Popular Music of the Era:

In the years preceding the conflict, singing schools and musical institutes operated in many parts of the country. Band concerts were popular forms of entertainment and pianos graced the parlors of many homes. Sales of sheet music were immensely profitable for music publishing houses.

When soldiers North & South marched off to war, they took with them a love of song that went beyond the philosophical divide between them. Music passed the time; it entertained and comforted; it brought back memories of home and family; it strengthened the bonds between comrades and helped to forge new ones.
Music of the Era: Northern Music

The North’s popular patriotic songs included: "Battle Cry of Freedom," "May God Save the Union," and the most famous song of the war: “The Battle Hymn of the Republic.”

Of all the songs written during and about the War, perhaps none is as strongly identified with the Union cause today as Julia Ward Howe's "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." For over 138 years, this song has been a fixture in patriotic programs and is still sung in schools and churches today.

Orson Wells telling us about The Battle Hymn of the Republic: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4GCfM60RriM

Oakridge Boys version: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQXbKmBffRY
Music of the Era: Southern Music

The South’s popular songs included: “Dixie”, "God Save the South," "God Will Defend the Right," & "The Rebel Soldier". “The Bonnie Blue Flag,” another pro-Southern song, was so popular in the Confederacy that Union General Benjamin Butler destroyed all the printed copies he could find, jailed the publisher, and threatened to fine anyone—even a child—caught singing the song or whistling the melody.

The slaves had their own tradition of songs of hope: “Follow the Drinking Gourd,” the words said guardedly – meaning follow The Big Dipper north to the Underground Railroad and freedom.

Watch Bonnie Blue Flag in the film Gods & Generals: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVeSKwM--1M
Medicine in the Civil War:

*During the Civil War, both sides were devastated by battle and disease. Nurses, surgeons, and physicians rose to the challenge of healing a nation and advanced medicine into the modern age.*

Modern hospital practices and treatment methods owe much to the legacy of Civil War medicine. Of the approximately 620,000 soldiers who died in the war, **two-thirds** of these deaths were not the result of enemy fire, but of a force stronger than any army of men: disease.

Learn more about Civil War Medicine from the Civil War Trust: [http://www.civilwar.org/education/history/civil-war-medicine/civil-war-medicine.html](http://www.civilwar.org/education/history/civil-war-medicine/civil-war-medicine.html)
Medicine in the Civil War:
At the beginning of the Civil War, medical equipment and knowledge was not up to the challenges of this brutal time in history. Illnesses like dysentery, typhoid fever, pneumonia, mumps, measles and tuberculosis spread among the poorly sanitized camps, felling men already weakened by fierce fighting and a meager diet.

The wounded and sick suffered from the haphazard hospitalization systems that existed at the start of the War. As battles ended, the wounded were rushed down railroad lines to nearby cities and towns, where doctors and nurses coped with the onslaught of dying men in makeshift hospitals.
Medicine in the Civil War:
The great American poet and Civil War nurse Walt Whitman noted the disorderly death and waste of early Civil War medicine. At the camp hospital of the Army of the Potomac in Falmouth, Virginia in 1862, Whitman saw “a heap of amputated feet, legs, arms, hands, a full load for a one-horse cart” and “several dead bodies” lying near.

Of the “hospital” itself, which was a brick mansion before the battle of Fredericksburg changed its use, Whitman observed that it was “quite crowded, upstairs and down, everything impromptu, no system, all bad enough, but I have no doubt the best that can be done; all the wounds pretty bad, some frightful, the men in their old clothes, unclean and bloody.”
Medicine in the Civil War:
However, the heavy and constant demands of the sick and wounded sped up the technological progression of medicine. Field and pavilion hospitals replaced makeshift hospitals and efficient hospitalization systems encouraged the accumulation of medical records.

A system was put in place where, once a soldier was wounded, they bandaged the soldier as fast they could and gave him whiskey (to ease the shock) and morphine, if necessary, for pain. If his wounds demanded more attention, he was evacuated to a nearby field hospital.

Watch this fascinating video about Black Doctors in the Civil War:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=55h7Bp5M7JQ
Medicine in the Civil War:

A triage organization that is still used today was set up. Field hospitals separated wounded soldiers into three categories: mortally wounded, slightly wounded and surgical cases. Most of the amputations performed at field hospitals were indeed horrible scenes, and although gruesome, amputation was a life-saving procedure.

Death from wounds and disease was an additional burden of the war that took a toll on the hearts, minds, and bodies of all Americans, but it also sped up the progression of medicine.

Watch a video about civil war medicine:
http://vimeo.com/98547350

Learn more by visiting the Civil War Medicine Museum site:
http://www.civilwarmed.org/national-museum-of-civil-war-medicine/exhibits/
Women in the Civil War:

The Civil War challenged the ideas that had defined the lives of women in the pre-war era. In the years before the Civil War, the lives of American women were shaped by the idea: “True women” devoted their lives to creating a clean, comfortable, nurturing home for their husbands and children.

During the Civil War, however, American women turned their attention to the world outside the home. Thousands joined volunteer brigades and worked as nurses. It was the first time in American history that women played a significant role in a war effort. By the end of the war, these experiences had expanded many Americans’ definitions of “true womanhood.”

Watch this great video: http://vimeo.com/99830154
Women in the Civil War:

With the outbreak of war in 1861, women and men alike eagerly volunteered to fight for the cause. In the Northern states, women organized ladies’ aid societies to supply the Union troops with everything they needed from food, to clothing, to cash.

But many women wanted to take a more active role in the war effort. Inspired by the work of Florence Nightingale and her fellow nurses in the Crimean War, they tried to find a way to work on the front lines, caring for sick and injured soldiers and keeping the rest of the Union troops healthy and safe.
Women in the Civil War:

Nearly 20,000 women worked for the Union war effort. Working-class white women and free and enslaved African-American women worked as laundresses, cooks and “matrons,” & some 3,000 middle-class white women worked as nurses.

The activist Dorothea Dix, the superintendent of Army nurses, put out a call for responsible, maternal volunteers who would not distract the troops or behave in unseemly or unfeminine ways. Dix insisted that her nurses be “past 30 years of age, healthy, plain almost to repulsion in dress and devoid of personal attractions.”

One of the most famous of these Union nurses was the writer Louisa May Alcott.
Women in the Civil War:
White women in the South threw themselves into the war effort with the same zeal as their Northern counterparts. The Confederacy had less money and fewer resources than did the Union, however, so they did much of their work on their own. They, too, cooked and sewed for their boys. They provided uniforms, blankets, sandbags and other supplies. They wrote letters to soldiers and worked as untrained nurses in makeshift hospitals. They even cared for wounded soldiers in their homes.

Many Southern women, especially wealthy ones, relied on slaves for everything and had never had to do much work. However, even they were forced by the exigencies of wartime to expand their definitions of "proper" female behavior.
Women in the Civil War:
Slave women were, of course, not free to contribute to the Union cause. The Civil War promised freedom, but it also added to these women’s burden. In addition to their own plantation & household labor, many slave women had to do the work of their husbands and partners too. Working-class white women had a similar experience. While their husbands, fathers and brothers fought, they were left to provide for their families on their own.

A WOMAN’S PROPER PLACE?
During the Civil War, women faced a host of new duties and responsibilities. These wartime contributions helped expand many women’s ideas about what their “proper place” should be.
Project: Flag Design

Civil War soldiers fought under regimental flags. These flags represented where they were from or where they enlisted in the army.

Look at the poster from the Texas Civil War Museum of flags that Texan’s fought under and design a flag that represents you, where you are from, and where you live now.
Project: Poetry

During the Civil War, thousands of poems were written. These poems help to unify citizens, inspire troops, memorialize the dead and bind the nation's wounds in the aftermath of the war. Read this poem by Walt Whitman, then create your own short poem about something that means a lot to you like Whitman did about the US Flag.

DELICATE CLUSTER.

Delicate cluster! Flag of teeming life!
Covering all my lands-all my seashores lining!
Flag of death! (how I watch'd you through the smoke of battle pressing!
How I heard you flap and rustle, cloth defiant!)
Flag cerulean-sunny flag, with the orbs of night dappled!
Ah my silvery beauty-ah my woolly white and crimson!
Ah to sing the song of you, my matron mighty!
My sacred one, my mother.
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Enjoy your trip to the Texas Civil War Museum!