

West Virginia Studies Resource Development

Title of Lesson: Medical Advances during the Civil War
Grade level: 8th Grade
Summary: Students will research the medical infrastructure of the United States prior to the Civil War (pharmaceuticals and surgery) relating it to the military, and compare the standard procedures at the time, to the advances that were made in those areas during the Civil War.
WV CCR Social Studies Standards: SS.8.22. Demonstrate an understanding of the American Civil War including its causes, effects, and the major events that led to West Virginia statehood. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explain the effect of key events leading to western Virginia's separation from Virginia after secession (e.g., First and Second Wheeling Conventions and John Brown's Raid).• Describe the moral, ethical, and legal tensions that led to the creation of the new state of West Virginia and how these tensions were resolved (e.g., Virginia vs. West Virginia).• Compare and contrast the military strategies of the North and South with regard to specific events and geographic locations in West Virginia (e.g., the Battle of Philippi, Rich Mountain, Droop Mountain, Battle of Scary Creek and Battle of Carnifex Ferry).• Identify significant contributions of men and women of West Virginia during the Civil War and identify the roles of ethnic and racial minorities.
Essential Question (content): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What was the (military related) medical infrastructure (i.e., pharmaceuticals and surgical procedures) in the United States prior to the Civil War?• What medical (pharmaceutical) advancements were made during the Civil War?• What surgical advancements were made during the Civil War?• What were the reasons so many soldiers died?
Students will be able to do (skills): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a PPT detailing and explaining how military and private practice doctors dealt with infections, diseases, drugs, and surgery prior to the Civil War.• Compare and contrast previous medical technology to the advancements in pharmaceuticals and surgeries made during the Civil War.• Students will be able to discern, understand, and explain why so many soldiers died during the Civil War.
Materials & Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Library resource books, old news articles of the era, historical documents, etc.• Computer Lab, laptops, tablets, or mobile labs• Notebook paper for rough drafts• Resource: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4790547/

Learning Plan:

- The teacher will begin the class with a discussion on medicine as we know it today, get student input on their injuries and sicknesses in the past, and how they were treated for them at the doctor's office, urgent care facility, or in a hospital.
- Teacher will then discuss injuries in military confrontations, and get student input on family or friends who have served in the military and were wounded, or lost a limb, etc.
- Students will be placed in groups of 4 to research what (military related) medical procedures were like prior to the Civil War concentrating on the areas of surgical procedures and drugs/pharmaceutical use. Each students will have a specific job to do within each group.
- Students will then research the reasons for many of the soldiers deaths during that period
- Students will create a powerpoint presentation comparing and contrasting practices from pre-Civil War to during the Civil War.
- PowerPoint must contain pictures of surgical instruments pre-Civil War and during Civil War
- PowerPoint must also contain a bibliography slide of research quoted

Checking for Understanding:

- Teacher will rephrase the assignment as a question
- Students will repeat the assignment
- The teacher will walk around the room periodically checking each groups' progress, giving suggestions, and help as needed.

Accommodations:

- Students will be in a mixed group of abilities (low, average, and above average)
- IEP students within each group will be given accommodations based on their IEP requirements. A modification of their part of the assignment will be made as needed.