

Lincoln 1863: Lincoln's Journey to Gettysburg - FREE

Name: Donna DeLuca - Library Media Specialist

District: Smithtown

Grade: 5-8

Subject: Social Studies

CCLS: RH.6-8.1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary

and secondary sources.

RH.6-8.2: Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.

RH.6-8.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.

RH.6-8.7: Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.

RH.6-8.9: Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic.

Website:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/lincoln-1863-lincolns-journey/id736314800?mt=8>

Description of application: This app follows Abraham Lincoln, in November of 1863, from Washington D.C. to Gettysburg, PA where he gave his Gettysburg Address. The app opens up to a page that provides us with some general background on Lincoln. There are five links along the bottom of the screen including: background, his journey, the address, me in 1863, and more.

- **Background:** The background includes basic biographical information about Lincoln, information on the state of the country in 1863, information on the town of Gettysburg during that time, and information on how Lincoln decided to go to Gettysburg in the first place.
- **His Journey:** This section provides an interactive map of his travels from Washington DC. to Gettysburg, PA. Each stop along the way is clickable and provides information on what Lincoln did and who he met in each of the places. This section goes into further detail on the people, places and things that Lincoln came in contact with on his journey. When you select the people icon, a list of people appears. Each name can be selected to learn more detailed information about that person. The same option is available for places and things.

This area also provides an interactive map of Gettysburg very similar to the first map with links to people, places and things.

In addition, His Journey also includes a timeline which provides a day by day account of Lincoln's activities.

- **The Address:** This area provides copies of the original, handwritten Gettysburg Address along with a typed transcript. There is also a link to hear the Gettysburg Address read aloud by Sam Waterston.
- **Me in 1863:** This section provides students with an opportunity to photograph themselves in clothing of the period by superimposing their head on the body of a soldier, woman, or couple. I thought this was a fun addition, but it did not work properly with the front facing camera on the iPad.
- **More:** This section, which includes:
 - Trivia - This area has some facts and trivia. There are only six questions, so students would exhaust this area in one visit.
 - Send a Postcard - Students can choose among four postcards. They can create a message and then send to an email address.
 - Visit - This area provides information on visiting Gettysburg.

Overall, this is a great free app, chock full of information. I did not find any advertisements or unwanted pop ups. There is a section where you can donate to the Gettysburg Foundation, but you must intentionally click on it to get there.

Incorporation: My fifth grade students have been doing a unit on the Civil War. I used this app to focus in on the Gettysburg Address. Students worked in pairs to research some of the events during this period. Each pair had to select an important person, place and thing and complete a graphic organizer providing information on each. Students were able to use the "Me in 1863" section to create photos of themselves. They took screenshots and saved them for creating a presentation. After doing the research, they used the app *Educreations* to present their information and included their "Me in 1863" photos.

This app could also be used to conduct more in depth research on this time period or to enhance a unit on the Civil War.