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**Topic:**                    **Andrew’s Raiders: The Great Locomotive Chase  
and the roles of Civilian Spies**

**Abstract:**

In this lesson, students, working individually, with partners or small groups, will use various websites to investigate the role of Andrew’s Raiders, a group of civilian and military spies in the American Civil War. The student activities are independent of one another and do not need to be completed in order or even by all students. Each activity culminates in a student created product.

Students will read accounts of the Great Locomotive Chase, through the documents on the Legion of Valor website and other internet sites. It is to be noted that Medals of Honor were presented to some of the members of Andrew’s Raiders, but the civilian participants were not eligible.

**Grade Level:**            8

**Time to Complete:** 5 to 10 hours

**Standard(s) Covered:**

**8.10** Students analyze the multiple causes, key events, and complex consequences of the Civil War.  
7. Explain how the war affected combatants, civilians, the physical environment and future warfare.

**Major Objective(s):**

The major objective of this lesson is to help students to understand that civilians played a major role in the Civil War. Civilians fought bravely and suffered great losses even though they did not receive pay or acknowledgement. Without the civilian spies, the outcome of the war could have been different. Also, students also need to be made aware of that the Medal of Honor was created during the Civil War for bravery.

**Major Points To Teach:**

- When the South fired on Fort Sumter, S.C., in 1861, American civilians wanted to do more than just wait at home for their brave menfolk to come home. North and South, women wanted to help the war effort.
- In the North, civilians organized “sanitary fairs” to ship medical aid, food and suitable reading material to the boys in blue.
- Many Northern women and older civilians found themselves running farms and small businesses as their men left for the front. Still other Northern women went to work in factories.
- In the South, civilians also found themselves rolling bandages and making clothes for the boys in gray. They, too, took over farms, plantations and small businesses and went to work in armories providing the weapons of war.
- In both areas, there were women who wanted to do more, and they went off to nurse those wounded in action. Some women actually enlisted using men’s names and fought with Union or Rebel armies.
- Civilians aided the war effort as spies. Espionage was considered disreputable for men at the start of the war. But the need for good intelligence was crucial, and men overcame their revulsion when good, accurate information began coming in from civilian spies.

## **Suggested Strategies:**

- Students will be exposed through the three modalities through classroom discussion of the topic, through the use of visuals by using the television or video projector and the researching of assigned internet sites and note taking on their laptops.
- Students will be able to participate throughout the lesson through discussion as a class, individually and in their groups. Since this is a web based activity, the lesson will also be hands on with the students actively participating using their textbooks and the internet.
- Throughout the lesson, questioning will occur and the students will be given the opportunity to express themselves allowing the teacher to monitor their grasp of the material presented.

## **Practices:**

### Student Activity 1:

Design and create a poster advertising for recruitment of civilians to spy for the Union Army.

- Begin by drawing, or you may use a computer drawing program and scanned pictures.
- Create or find pictures of Andrew's Raiders to use as examples.
- Write descriptions for the pictures (be sure to give details) and incorporate quotes from Abraham Lincoln encouraging civilians to lend support.
- Design an eye-catching slogan.

### Student Activity 2:

Create a historical newspaper front page, from the time period, which details the awarding of the Medal of Honor to the Andrew's Raiders that received it.

- Using the descriptions provided by the documents on the Legion of Valor site and other sources, write a newspaper story detailing the awarding of the Medal of Honor to Andrew's Raiders during the Civil War.
- Using a sheet of paper mock up the front page of a Civil War era newspaper, including the Banner: name of paper, date, city published; Headline: pertains to the battles and soldiers receiving the Medal of Honor.
- Try to make the newspaper as realistic looking as possible.

### Student Activity 3:

Write a poem that details the bravery of Andrew's Raiders.

- Using the poem style assigned to you by your teacher, write a two-stanza poem on Andrew's Raiders and civilian spies of the Civil War. Pay attention to the rhyming pattern and rhythm of each line.
- Each stanza should be at least nine lines long.
- It should tell something about the Raiders that won the Medal of Honor.
- When you have edited and rewritten it, turn it in to your teacher in the form that he or she has requested.

## **RESOURCES:**

### **Legion of Valor Archives Materials:**

The names listed below are the Andrew's Raiders veterans that received the Medal of Honor and documents relating to receiving this honor as well as military records can be found at the links listed in the Legion of Valor Archives.

- **Bensinger, William** b. January 14, 1840 d. 1923  
Civil War Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient. Served in the Civil War as a Private in Company G, 21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was awarded the CMOH for his bravery as a participant as a Mitchell Raider in the famed "Great Locomotive Chase" in April 1862. His citation reads "One of the 19 of 22 men (including 2 civilians) who, by direction of Gen. Mitchell (or Buell), penetrated nearly 200 miles south into enemy territory and captured a railroad train at Big Shanty, Ga., in an attempt to destroy the bridges and track between Chattanooga and Atlanta". He was captured when the train they confiscated "The General" ran out of fuel, and spent time in Confederate Prisons. When his Medal was issued to him on March 25, 1863, he became the second United States soldier in History to be awarded it (after Private Jacob Parrot of the 33rd Ohio Infantry - another Mitchell Raider). 22 other participants of the Raid were also awarded the Medal of Honor.  
<http://lovarchive.fcoe.net/weblink/index.asp?DocumentID=7844&FolderID=3838&SearchHandle=0&DocViewType=ShowImage&LeftPaneType=Hidden&dbid=0&page=1>
- **Brown, Wilson W.** b. December 25, 1839 d. December 26, 1916  
Rank and organization: Private, Company F., 21st Ohio Infantry. Place and date: Georgia, April 1862. Entered service at: Wood County, Ohio. Birth: Logan County, Ohio. Date of issue: September 1863. Citation: One of the 19 of 22 men (including 2 civilians) who, by direction of Gen. Mitchell (or Buell), penetrated nearly 200 miles south into enemy territory and captured a railroad train at Big Shanty, Ga., in an attempt to destroy the bridges and tract between Chattanooga and Atlanta.  
<http://lovarchive.fcoe.net/weblink/index.asp?DocumentID=7783&FolderID=3838&SearchHandle=0&DocViewType=ShowImage&LeftPaneType=Hidden&dbid=0&page=1>
- **Buffum, Robert** d. July 20, 1871  
Rank and organization: Private, Company H, 21st Ohio Infantry. Place and date: Georgia, April 1862. Date of issue: 25 March 1863. Citation: One of the 19 of 22 men (including 2 civilians) who, by direction of Gen. Mitchell (or Buell), penetrated nearly 200 miles south into enemy territory and captured a railroad train at Big Shanty, Ga., in an attempt to destroy the bridges and track between Chattanooga and Atlanta.  
<http://lovarchive.fcoe.net/weblink/index.asp?DocumentID=7799&FolderID=3838&SearchHandle=0&DocViewType=ShowImage&LeftPaneType=Hidden&dbid=0&page=1>
- **Hawkins, Martin J.** d. 1886  
Rank and organization: Corporal, Company A, 33d Ohio Infantry. Place and date: Georgia, April 1862. Entered service at: Portsmouth, Scioto County, Ohio. Birth: Mercer County, Pa. Date of issue: September 1863. Citation: One of the 19 of 22 men (including 2 civilians) who, by direction of Gen. Mitchell (or Buell), penetrated nearly 200 miles south into enemy territory and captured a railroad train at Big Shanty, Ga., in an attempt to destroy the bridges and track between Chattanooga and Atlanta.  
<http://lovarchive.fcoe.net/weblink/index.asp?DocumentID=8781&FolderID=3838&SearchHandle=0&DocViewType=ShowImage&LeftPaneType=Hidden&dbid=0&page=1>

- **Mason, Elihu H.** b. March 23, 1831 d. September 24, 1896  
 Rank and organization: Sergeant, Company K, 21st Ohio Infantry. Place and date: Georgia, April 1862. Entered service at: Pemberville, Wood County, Ohio. Birth: Wayne County, Ind. Date of issue: 25 March 1863. Citation: One of the 19 of 22 men (including 2 civilians) who, by direction of Gen. Mitchell (or Buell), penetrated nearly 200 miles south into enemy territory and captured a railroad train at Big Shanty, Ga., in an attempt to destroy the bridges and track between Chattanooga and Atlanta.  
<http://lovarchive.fcoe.net/weblink/index.asp?DocumentID=8458&FolderID=3838&SearchHandle=0&DocViewType=ShowImage&LeftPaneType=Hidden&dbid=0&page=1>
- **Parrott, Jacob Wilson** b. July 17, 1843 d. December 22, 1908  
 During the Civil War, Jacob was a member of Company K, 33d Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Jacob, along with 22 other men (including 2 civilians) who, by direction of General Mitchell penetrated nearly 200 miles south into enemy territory and captured a railroad train, "The General" at Big Shanty, Georgia, in an attempt to destroy the bridges and tracks between Chattanooga and Atlanta. Led by James J. Andrews, the men were able to take possession of the train, and a long chase followed. Sometimes this great adventure is referred to as "The Great Locomotive Chase". Many of the men, including Jacob, were eventually captured by the Confederate Soldiers. While being held captive, Jacob endured being whipped over 100 times, on his bare back, by the confederates as they tried to gain information from him. For his part in the undercover mission, Jacob was awarded the very first Medal Of Honor. Other "Andrew's Raiders", as they became to be known by, were also awarded the Medal Of Honor, as they so well deserved.  
<http://lovarchive.fcoe.net/weblink/index.asp?DocumentID=8337&FolderID=3838&SearchHandle=0&DocViewType=ShowImage&LeftPaneType=Hidden&dbid=0&page=1>
- **Reddick, William Henry Harrission** b. September 18, 1840 d. November 8, 1903  
 2nd Lt. William Henry Harrission Reddick of the Company "B" 33rd Ohio, was the sixth man to receive the Nations Medal Of Honor being a member of Andrews Raiders. Citation: One of the 19 of 22 men (including 2 civilians) who, by direction of Gen. Mitchell (or Buell), penetrated nearly 200 miles south into enemy territory and captured a railroad train at Big Shanty, Ga., in an attempt to destroy the bridges and tracks between Chattanooga and Atlanta.  
<http://lovarchive.fcoe.net/weblink/index.asp?DocumentID=8821&FolderID=3838&SearchHandle=0&DocViewType=ShowImage&LeftPaneType=Hidden&dbid=0&page=1>
- **Ross, Marion A.** d. June 18, 1862  
 Sergeant Major, 2nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Member of the Andrews Raiders. Recipient of one of the first posthumously awarded Congressional Medals of Honor. Date of issue: September 1863. Citation: Nineteen of 22 men (including 2 civilians) who, by direction of Gen. Mitchell (or Buell), penetrated nearly 200 miles south into the enemy's territory and captured a railroad train at Big Shanty, Ga., in an attempt to destroy the bridges and track between Chattanooga and Atlanta.  
<http://lovarchive.fcoe.net/weblink/index.asp?DocumentID=8918&FolderID=3838&SearchHandle=0&DocViewType=ShowImage&LeftPaneType=Hidden&dbid=0&page=1>

## **Internet Links:**

### **Browse by Claim to Fame: Great Locomotive Chase (Andrews Raiders)**

This site contains short biographies on all of the Andrew's Raiders as well as photos and pictures of each of the participants.

<http://www.findagrave.com/php/famous.php?page=pr&FSctf=145>

### **Locomotive General's Andrews' Raiders Photo Gallery**

This site contains a photo gallery of members of the Raiders as well as the train and locations.

<http://www.locomotivegeneral.com/generalraiders/>

### **The Great Locomotive Chase: The story of Andrew's Raiders**

This site contains the story of Andrew's Raiders as well as additional links to the other participants in the Great Locomotive Chase. Important locations and landmarks are also highlighted.

<http://ngeorgia.goldenink.com/history/raiders.html>

### **The First Medals of Honor: The Great Locomotive Chase**

This highlights the complete story of Andrew's Raiders and the Great Locomotive Chase. It also goes into detail about the creation of the Medal of Honor and the awarding of the first medals to the military participants of Andrew's Raiders.

[http://www.homeofheroes.com/moh/history/history\\_first.html](http://www.homeofheroes.com/moh/history/history_first.html)

## **Materials Required for Lesson:**

This lesson is written for use in a classroom with at least one computer with internet access. It would work equally well in a computer lab situation.

## **Assessment:**

Student projects will be assessed as follows:

- Followed all instructions.
- The project is neat, easy to read and creative.
- The project is historically accurate.
- The main idea is clearly stated.
- Ideas are clarified and supported with evidence and examples.