The Civil War
Post-Visit Lesson

Big Idea
Students will understand how the end of the American Civil War changed many aspects of life in the United States.

Maryland Curriculum Standards
Social Studies Framework

- Essential Question (5th grade): How did the conclusion of the Civil War affect the United States (North and South) and Maryland?
- Essential Question (8th grade): How does war impact and change society?

Materials Needed

- Device with internet access (phone or ipad or laptop) for each student pair
- Research QR codes printed and placed around classroom (provided at end of lesson plan)
- Clipboards (one per student pair)
- Student response paper (printed - one per student pair)
- Pencils
- Headphones for each pair of students (optional)

Teacher Resources

- QR code generator (if you want to create your own) https://www.the-qrcode-generator.com/
Lesson Procedure

**Introduction:**

The United States in 1865 looked very different from 1860 which was before the American Civil War began. There are four themes that will be explored in today’s lesson:

- How did the use of coal and coal mining change the United States after the Civil War?
- How did the freedom of black Americans change the United States after the Civil War?
- How did the use of iron and metal for transportation (instead of wood) change the United States after the Civil War?
- How did the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln change the United States after the Civil War?
Lesson Procedure Continued

Direct Instruction (Student Activity):

In order to explore these questions, students will work with a partner and a device. They will walk around the classroom to scan QR codes and learn more about each topic. Students should scan at least 4 QR codes and write the information they learned on the Student Response Sheet.

Conclusion:

Using a digital platform (Seesaw, Google Classroom, Class Dojo, Flipgrid, Padlet, etc), have a way for students to share one thing they learned during the activity. Have a class discussion about the similarities, differences and answers to the questions/themes from the beginning of class.
1. How did the use of coal and coal mining change the United States after the Civil War?

2. How did the freedom of black Americans change the United States after the Civil War?

3. How did the use of iron and metal for transportation change the United States after the Civil War?

4. How did the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln change the United States after the Civil War?
QR Codes for Research Stations

Three Minutes in History: Lincoln Assassination Video

Conspiracy to Kill the President Video

Reconstruction and Its Aftermath Article

Reconstruction Article

African American Population Article
QR Codes for Research Stations

Coal 101 Video
Beyond Coal Website
What's Wrong with Coal? Video

Transportation and the Economy Article
Transportation in America Article