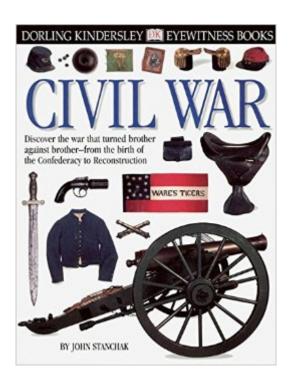
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Eyewitness: Civil War





Synopsis

Discover the war that turned brother against brother -- from the birth of the Confederacy to Reconstruction. Here is a dramatic, photo-filled guide to the war that split the Union. Eyewitness Civil War includes everything from the issues that divided the country, to the battles that shaped the conflict, to the birth of the reunited states. Rich, full-color photographs of rare documents, powerful weapons, and priceless artifacts plus stunning images of legendary commanders, unsung heroes, and memorable heroines combine with stories of courage, adventure, and defiance to paint an unforgettable portrait of the American Civil War. See Fort Sumter's battle-torn flag, a beardless Lincoln, the tools of a Civil war surgeon, and the Confederate capital in ruins. Learn how to fire a cannon, the secrets of the Underground Railroad, about the Confederacy's First Lady, and what soldiers carried into battle. Discover who plotted Lincoln's assassination, where the last Confederates surrendered, what happened to Jefferson Davis, and why the North won the war, and much, much more!

Book Information

Series: DK Eyewitness Books

Hardcover: 64 pages

Publisher: DK Children (September 27, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0789463024

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Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.4 x 11.4 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #761,882 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #126 in Books > Children's Books

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Books > Education & Reference > History > Military & Wars

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

I think that with the topic of the Civil War the DK Eyewitness Book series has met its match. The goal of these wonderfully illustrated books is to give readers the equivalent of going to a museum, albeit one that is able to collect photographs, paintings, and artifacts from dozens of choice sources.

However, when you are dealing with a topic as large as the Civil War all you can really do is scratch the surface and provide readers with a general introduction. "Civil War" is definitely not the first book a young student would turn to for information about the topic, but for those whose previous readings have kindled a passion for this pivotal period in American history this book will be a treat, primarily in its depiction of artifacts. Young Civil War buffs will already be familiar with the portraits of the Union and Confederate generals, and many of the photographs and etchings will be familiar from other illustrated works. Consequently, they will find the contemporary photographs of priceless historic artifacts to more interesting that the familiar period illustrations. This photo-filled guide focuses each two-page spread on particular topics ranging from the Underground Railroad and how both sides raised armies to black volunteers and field artillery. The war itself is reduced to the battles of Bull Run and Gettysburg, the siege of Vicksburg, Sherman's March to the Sea, and Lee's surrender. Again, this underscores that this is a supplemental volume and not a primary source of information about the Civil War. The rule of thumb here is that the less you know about the Civil War the more you will be impressed with this volume, because the more you know the more likely you have already encountered most of the information and illustrations contained herein. I also think that this particular volume tries a bit too hard. Case in point, the famous engraving of Senator Charles Sumner being attacked by South Carolina Congressman Preston Brooks with a cane on the floor of the U.S. Senate colors in the two main figures, and other illustrations have been colorized as well. However, all of this simply goes to underscore that the great value of the DK Eyewitness Books series is that they show us things we have never seen and in my case this particular subject is one that has already exposed me to a lot of what we find in this book. Several volumes in this format could have been devoted to the topic of the Civil War, so I would not be surprised if somewhere down the road some companion volumes to this effort were produced.

DK is great at creating books full of high-quality photos. This book includes great photos of Civil War soldiers in their uniforms. It also has photos of soldiers lying dead on a battlefield and a Southern home riddled with holes from canon fire, photos I had never seen in my history books. It has good, close-up photos and drawings of the guns, grenades, hardtack biscuits and other everyday items used by soldiers back then. Very interesting!

DK has a great formula for introducing topics to kids. Beautiful graphics, excellent layout and good summaries of important facts surrounding their topics. Such is the same for their Civil War book. For the child wanting (or needing) an introduction to the Civil War this book will serve well. The pictures

draw the attention of the browser and the text gives a pretty good brief summary of the why, who and what for the reader. An excellent addition for your child's library.

I bought this book for my Grandson, he is 8, loves to read and like all great kids has some very detailed questions he would like answered, There is a entire series of these "Eye Witness" books. They are great. He had his questions answered about what cannons and swords are like, and yes he understands now people die and he also understands what a Patriot is and that sometimes a mans duty is to protect his family and Country at all costs. But it's not a bloody gory book, It's reality and done very well, It's about 80 pages, He read it in 2 days tops and remembered everything in the book, Check this series out, I was and am very impressed with them. They have books on many topics of wars and conflicts we have been in as a Country. A outstanding reality History book for a change that speaks the truth in the details a 8 year old is satisfied with.

These books always excite my 11 year old--who usually fights reading! the pictures and how all the little pieces on the page all fit together, keeps him asking, "well, what about this part, mom?"

When I purchased this book I did not realize it was for children. It is avery good book for younger readers.

I have a matter of fact child that just does not like fiction. He loves the Eye-Witness books and this one has not failed to please. He has really enjoyed looking at the pictures of the weapons in particular. The photography is incredible in this book. In fact, the book spurred his interest and I spotted him looking up some items on the Internet that he had seen in the book so he could read about them further. Any book that does that- encourages learning and discovery- certainly deserves the highest rating! I'm using this book as part of a theme unit for my homeschooling son. We are also using Joy Hakim's War, Terrible War from the History of US series.

If you are looking for something with deep coverage of the civil war this is not it. But if you are looking for something that is easy to read, full of pictures & drawings that show equipment, people & a few scenes of the war than this is for you. There is a lot packed in this little 64 page (includes the index) book. It's like a little museum in your hands. I am especially fond of the photos of soldiers from the war. The weapons & equipment they used are shown with them. An awesome introductory book of the civil war.

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