

Fort Pulaski

Pre-Post Trip Activities

Activity 1. Historical Figure Facebook

Have students pull from a hat with a list of names of important figures at Fort Pulaski during the Civil War era and have them design a facebook page for that person. Have students use the same formula that they would have in creating their own personal page. If a student, for example, has Robert E. Lee, then the student would need to list his friends, like Stonewall Jackson and Jefferson Davis, etc. Students could also, on behalf of their Civil War personality, “like” ideas, themes, and pop culture elements of the time period. Upon completion, students present their Facebook page to the class.

Activity 2. How to Run and Protect Your New Settlement

Imagine you have been put in charge of running a settlement during the 1860’s. This settlement is newly established with a thriving community near the mouth of a river. There is opportunity for citizens to start farms and businesses, and your city is also a great location for trade from the land and water. Create a map for your settlement – how would you guide development of your town and defend it from various dangers? Break students into small groups to build their own cities. Have them discuss specific dangers and the kinds of resources they have to develop their city (such as bricks, guns, farming equipment, and a militia). Have the students share and discuss why they made their decisions.

Activity 3. Letters to Home

Have your students get into the mindset of a Civil War era soldier stationed at Fort Pulaski or around Savannah. They haven’t seen their families in a while and want to write them a letter. They can get really creative, going into detail about their current situation and how they are feeling. Another variation of this activity is to write letters to Lincoln, explaining how they feel about the war and the state of the country.

Activity 4. Build a Fort

Divide students into teams and give each team a deck of cards and any other building materials you may want to provide. Have them work together to build a fort out of the cards for 5-10 minutes. Once all the forts are built, give each team a rubber band and some cotton balls. Have them take turns shooting cotton balls at each other's forts until only one fort remains standing as the winner.



Making the best better!