

Through the Eyes of a Child

The Battle of Monocacy was a short but fierce battle. Civilians hid in their basements to stay safe. On the Worthington Farm, 6 year old Glenn

Worthington watched the battle unfold from his tiny basement window. Confederate soldiers occupied his front yard and marched into battle.

He could hear the musket fire. He could feel the ground shake each time the cannons fired.

Glenn remembered everything he saw that day. As an adult, he wrote a book about his experience and played an important role in preserving this battlefield.



How would you react if you witnessed something like Glenn did? Look out at the battlefield from the Worthington House and imagine what you would see and feel.

Write your thoughts below.

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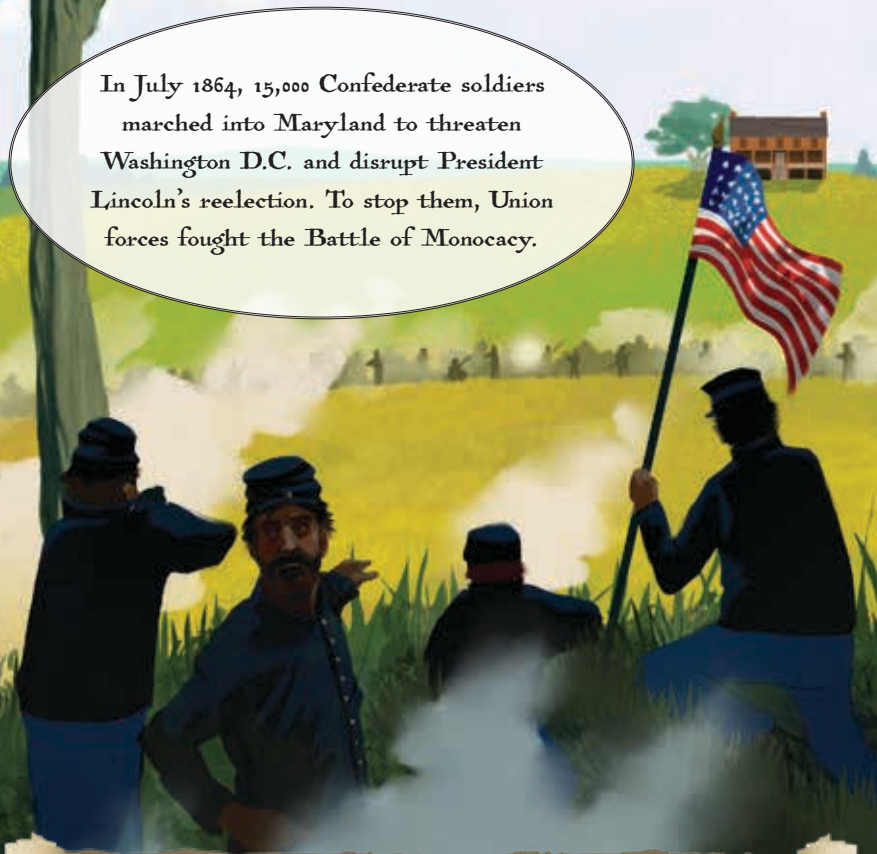
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Defend the Union:

Battle of Monocacy

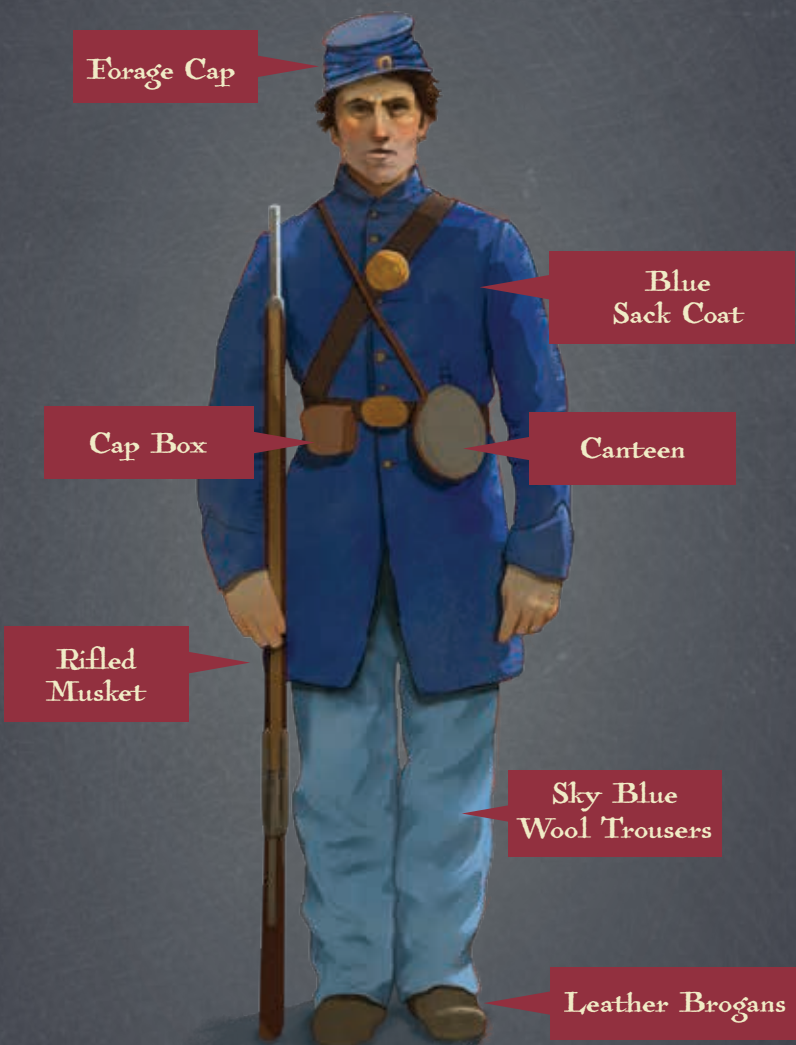
In July 1864, 15,000 Confederate soldiers marched into Maryland to threaten Washington D.C. and disrupt President Lincoln's reelection. To stop them, Union forces fought the Battle of Monocacy.



About 6500 Union soldiers stood in defense trying to hold off the Confederates here at Monocacy on July 9th, 1864. Though the Confederates won, the battle delayed them long enough to protect Washington D.C.. This delay helped Union forces continue the fight, leading to a victory that would unite the nation and end slavery.

Dressing for Battle

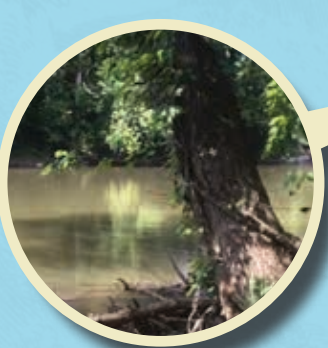
The soldiers in blue fighting here at Monocacy junction were all members of the United States Army. A soldier's clothes had to be well made and durable to endure the hardships of soldier life. How do you think the clothes you have on now compare to those of a soldier?



What are the major differences between your clothes of today those of a soldier in 1864? In our museum at the Visitor Center, you can see original clothing that soldiers wore. Do you think that your clothes will last long enough to make it to a museum? As you walk the trail, imagine carrying all that soldiers had to carry and wearing what they had to wear!

To Cross or Not

During the Battle of Monocacy, Confederate cavalry under Brigadier General John McCausland crossed the Monocacy River in an attempt to drive out the Federal defenders at the junction. McCausland was looking for a ford in the river, a shallow spot where horses could cross easily. He found this spot along this trail. Can you find one? If the water was too high, soldiers would be stuck on one side of the river unless there was a bridge.



Union soldiers burned the covered bridge over the Monocacy River, forcing Confederate troops to ford the river. Today, this bridge stands where the original covered bridge once stood.



The Monocacy has been known to rise with heavy rain. As you walk along the trail, can you find any spots in the river that looks shallow enough to cross.

CAUTION! Do NOT attempt to cross the river!

checkmark the best answer

- ☒ **YES!** The river is crossable.
- ☐ **EH!** I would have to swim.
- ☐ **NO!** I am stuck on this side.

Are your clothes battle-ready?

Do you think your clothes would stand up to the rigors of army life? Look at your own clothes and decide if you could go on a march or even into battle!

	Battle Ready?	
	yes	no
shoes	☐	☐
shirt	☐	☐
pants	☐	☐
hat	☐	☐



Riding into Battle

Civil War armies had soldiers on horseback, called cavalrymen. Their job was to scout for the enemy and protect the army while it moved. They also fought when needed. During the Battle of Monocacy, however, these men dismounted to fight. Typically, every fourth man was a "horse holder" (someone to stay with the horses while the others fought). But during this battle, the cavalrymen were ordered to turn their horses loose! The Confederate cavalry hoped to break through the Union line quickly, so every trooper was needed. What kind of soldier would you have liked to be? If you chose cavalry, how would you feel about having to turn your horse loose during battle?



SADDLE UP! Imagine you are riding a horse and gallop down the trail for 40 seconds. (If you are feeling really adventurous you can gallop along the entire trail).