Title of Unit: **Southern Explosion**  Grade Level: 3  Duration: 3 weeks

Developed by: Johnny Bundrick, Rene Miller, Sheila Matthews, Jessica McCleskey, Melissa Cockrell, Courtney Long

Alignment with Common Core and/or South Carolina Academic Standards for two or more content areas:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Social Studies</th>
<th>ELA</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
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Connections to one or more Exploratories:

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<th>Art</th>
<th>Music</th>
<th>Technology</th>
<th>PE SCPES 1 &amp; 2</th>
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**Summary of activities showing connections between content areas**

Students will read various historical fiction novels that take place during the time period before, during, and after the Civil War. Students will analyze the characters within the novels and determine how their actions contributed to the sequence of events within their novels. Students will compare the economic conditions for antebellum groups of people. They will investigate these differences through exploration of toys, the Virginia Reel dance, and the reading of various texts. Students will investigate how long it takes to pick the seeds from a cotton plant while researching the effect of the cotton gin on cotton production in the south. Students will reenact a significant event in SC during the Civil War and model various battles through the use of toy soldiers. Students will illustrate the life cycle of a cotton plant and research the time, season, and procedure for planting cotton. They will investigate how the properties of milk (liquid) differ from the properties of butter (solid) through the use of a butter churn to make butter. They will also experiment to determine how temperature affects the formation of butter.

**Text Set**  
(This might include children’s literature, films, maps, brochures, magazines, websites, and other resources)

- Civil War on Sunday (36)  
- Abner & Me (1)  
- **Read-Aloud**  
  My America series My Brother’s Keeper: Virginia’s Diary, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, 1868 (3)  
- **Read-Aloud**  
  Dear America series The Diary of Patsy, a Freed Girl: I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly, Mars Bluff, South Carolina, 1865 (3)  
- The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (20)  
- Easy Simulations: Civil War (3)
### Civil War Kids 150 (3)
- Civil War Sub: The Mystery of the Hunley (3)
- The Civil War: An Interactive History Adventure (3)
- Great Civil War Projects You Can Build Yourself (1)
- Spotlight On America: Underground Railroad (4)
- The Civil War Courier newspaper (1)

Jacob’s Ladder games (10)
- Toy violin and bow (1)
- Zither ukulele banjo, pick, bar, and instruction booklet (1)
- Wooden catch ball games (10)
- CD: In High Cotton: Favorite Camp Songs of the Civil War
- Union and Confederate caps (1 each)
- Civil War Model set, includes 1 bag of Confederate soldiers, 1 bag of Union soldiers, 1 plastic base (3 sets)
- Spinning Cotton on the Charkha: CD, wooden box with spinning wheel, 4 packages of cotton
  [http://www.charkha.biz/](http://www.charkha.biz/)

### Essential Questions

#### Social Studies
- How did the cotton gin influence slavery in SC?
- How did various social classes feel about the war in SC?
- How did the Civil War affect social class in SC?
- What events caused the Civil War and what effect did they have on people living in our state?

#### Science
- Which type of soil is best for growing cotton?
- How do the properties of milk differ from the properties of butter?
- How does temperature affect the production of butter?
- In what conditions does cotton grow best?

#### ELA
- How can language help me understand time, sequence of events, and cause and effects when reading about historical events?
- How can a writer create effective opinion writing?
- How can short research projects lead to better understanding of a topic?

#### Math
- Why is telling and writing time important?
- Why do we need to know how to tell time?

### Pre-Writing and Writing Activities
1. Respond to the read-aloud text in journal
2. Use a variety of graphic organizers to describe the main characters in a novel and sequence the events.
3. Create a narrative diary entry about the daily life of a slave.
4. Write a letter to a Civil War soldier.
5. Write an opinion piece from the point of view of a southern or northern soldier.
### Instructional Strategies

1. Model various significant battles in SC through constructive play with toy soldiers.
2. Perform a dance from the Civil War time period (Virginia Reel).
3. Role play/Simulation exercises through the use of Easy Simulations: Civil War.
4. Investigate how butter is made through the use of a butter churn.
5. Compare toys of the time period with toys of today (Ball & Cup, Jacob’s Ladder, marbles).

### Accommodations, Modalities of Learning, Differentiating Instruction

Multisensory activities address visual, auditory, and kinesthetic modalities. Students have choices and opportunities to work collaboratively on several projects. Students with kinesthetic capabilities will have opportunities to excel. Open-ended assignments provide flexibility. A variety of leveled books are provided.

### Assessment

- Teacher-made tests
- Aiken County School District Writing Rubric