

Better Classroom Guidebooks'

The War of 1812 Collection

Notes to Teacher

THE VIDEOS

Both the Public Broadcasting Service and the National Film Board have produced excellent videos about the War of 1812. The NFB version of *The War of 1812* is about three hours long and provides detailed descriptions of the major engagements of the war. The PBS version is shorter at about 114 minutes and has the advantage of sub-titles for each of its sections which makes independent viewing by students easier. Both productions present a balanced view of the war.

The second half of volume 5 of the CBC's *Canada: A Peoples' History* is about 50 minutes long and presents the highlights of the war. This video does a very good job of showing the tensions within the population of Upper Canada in the era.

Each of the videos can be purchased online from a variety of sources. Individual teachers may find that the PBS and NFB videos can be purchased from Amazon.ca for about \$25.00 each, including shipping - less expensive than purchasing from the publisher - which makes either of these videos an economical addition to a personal or school library.

CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION:

This collection of Social Studies resources includes the following resources:

- one viewing guide and a crossword puzzle based on the second half of Volume 5 of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's *Canada: A Peoples' History* series;
- four viewing guides and four crossword puzzles based on the four disks in the National Film Board of Canada's *The War of 1812* video set;
- three viewing guides and three crossword puzzles based on the Public Broadcasting Service's *The War of 1812* video;
- three timeline/fact sheets and crossword puzzles dealing with the events of 1811-1812, 1813, and 1814-1815.

The viewing guides come in *pdf* format for student use. They are also provided in *MS Word* format for teachers who wish to make modifications.

INTENDED USERS:

The Viewing Guides and Crossword puzzles in this collection will be of use to teachers of Canadian and American history courses that include the War of 1812.

These resources can be used in a variety of settings, for example:

- in conventional classrooms as **guided viewing assignments** when students watch the videos;
- as an independent viewing assignments in **multi-grade classrooms** where teachers must present several different social studies courses;
- in classrooms where students enter and exit a program at varied times and require **self-paced study materials**.

INTERNET LINKS:

- www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War_of_1812 Wikipedia is a one-stop encyclopedia. It has links to many of the events and personalities involved in this conflict.
- www.warof1812.ca This website has numerous links to information about the times and is especially good from a Canadian perspective.
- www.visit1812.com/history This website offers a detailed chronology of the War's events and links to many historic sites.
- www.canadachannel.ca/HCO/index.php/6_The_War_of_1812 This link will lead readers to a series of short essays about many of the events of the War of 1812.
- www.pbs.org/wned/war-of-1812/essays PBS offers a number of short essays that offer different perspectives of give additional background information.
- www.columbiagames.com/cgi-bin/query/cfg/zoom.cfg?product_id=3002 Columbia Games publishes a two player board game that simulates the War of 1812. It is fun and educational and may fit into classroom activities.

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When purchased by a school, the Collection may be used by any number of teachers in that school and their students. Similarly, when purchased by an individual, the Collection may be used by that individual and any number of his or her students.

The Collection may not be transferred to any other parties in either original or modified form.