

Animated Map Activity

Go to the animated map of Fredericksburg on Civil War Trust's website, www.civilwar.org. Fill in your paper and maps as you watch the animated map. You will need markers and colored pencils.

Italicized sentences mean you complete that task on your map.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Introduction

Find Fredericksburg, Washington, DC, and Richmond on your map of Virginia and circle these locations.

On your map of Virginia find the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers and color them in blue.

When did the Battle of Fredericksburg take place? _____

Who was in command of the Union Army of the Potomac at this point? _____

Who had been in command? _____

Why was Lincoln frustrated?

Find the Shenandoah Valley and Mountains on the map of Virginia and color them brown. Why did the Union Army decide not to go near the Shenandoah Mountains?

Why did it take General Burnside and the Army of the Potomac so long to get across the river and into Fredericksburg?

Draw arrows to show the route of the pontoon bridges on your map of Virginia. About how far did the boats travel from Berlin Md. to Fredericksburg, VA? _____

While the Army of the Potomac was waiting for the pontoon bridges to arrive what was the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia doing?

On your map of Fredericksburg draw the locations on the Rappahannock River where the pontoon bridges were placed.

On your map of Fredericksburg highlight the city in one color, Marye's heights in another, and the Slaughter Pen Farm in another.

On your map of Fredericksburg measure the distance between Marye's heights and the Slaughter Pen Farm. About how many miles apart are these locations? _____

Marye's Heights

Complete the Marye's Heights portion of the animated map first, and then do the Slaughter Pen Farm.

Why do you think the Army of Northern Virginia decided to locate themselves on Marye's Heights?

What obstacles stood in the way of the Union Army's advance at of Marye's Heights?

On your map of Marye's Heights color the stonewall yellow and Mill Race blue.

*On your map of Marye's Heights draw in the location of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia with a **red** pencil or crayon.*

About what time did the fighting begin at Marye's Heights? _____
Write that time on your map of Marye's Heights.

*On your map of Marye's Heights using a **blue** pencil, draw in the location of the Union Army of the Potomac and draw arrows pointing in the direction in which they moved.*

Describe what happened during the battle at Marye's Heights.

Explain why the Army of Northern Virginia only lost 1,000 men, compared to the Potomac Army's 7,500 men.

After the battle what action did the confederate soldier Richard Kirkland take?

Why do you think both sides cheered Kirkland's actions?

Prospect Hill and Slaughter Pen Farm

About what time did the fighting begin at the Slaughter Pen Farm? _____

Write that time on your map of Prospect Hill and Slaughter Pen Farm.

On your map of Prospect Hill and Slaughter Pen Farm highlight Bowling Green Road and the railroad tracks.

*On your map of Prospect Hill and Slaughter Pen Farm draw in the starting location of the Confederate Army with a **red** pencil or crayon.*

*On your maps of Prospect Hill and Slaughter Pen Farm draw in the starting location of the Army of the Potomac with a **blue** pencil or crayon.*

*Identify Pelham's position from which he attacked the Union Line and circle this with your **red** pencil or crayon.*

What effect did Pelham's attack have on Army of the Potomac?

Label the line in the middle of the field "Virginia Ditch Fence."

Locate the swamp on your Slaughter Pen Farm Map and color it green.

*On your maps of Prospect Hill and Slaughter Pen Farm, using your **blue** pencil or crayon draw arrows showing the direction in which the Union Army of the Potomac moved.*

*On your maps of Prospect Hill and Slaughter Pen Farm, using your **red** pencil or crayon draw arrows showing the direction in which the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia moved.*

At what point in the battle did the Army of the Potomac have the best chance of winning the battle by breaking through the lines of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia during the battle?

What happened at the end of the battle at Prospect Hill and Slaughter Pen Farm?

Wrap up

Compare the results at Prospect Hill and Slaughter Pen Farm to those at Marye's Heights? Was the outcome at Slaughter Pen Farm worse, better or the same than Marye's Heights? Explain.

Who do you think won the battle at Fredericksburg? Why?

General Burnside, commander of the Army of the Potomac, had a difficult time communicating with his commanding officers. How do you think General Burnside sent messages?

Using the distance you measured on your map of Fredericksburg, about how long do you think it took a message to get from Marye's Heights to Slaughter Pen Farm?

What do you think happened because of this?

If the Union Army won at Fredericksburg where did they plan to go next?

What would have been the advantage to having this location?
