

# Stones River

Stones River National Battlefield  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



# Explore • Learn • Protect



My Name is:



# Stones River National Battlefield Junior Ranger Program

## Junior Rangers help protect their national parks!



In order to earn your Junior Ranger badge and certificate, complete six or more activities in your age group.

You may attend a ranger program as one of your activities.  
Have the ranger write his/her name and the date:

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If you see a word in **bold letters**, look for it in the glossary on page 21.



Ranger Hat - Ages 6 and under



Bison - Ages 7 to 10



Arrowhead - Ages 11 and up

## Let's start exploring!

# Experience Your America!

The National Park Service was created in 1916 to protect natural and historic places in the United States. Today there are more than 400 national park areas. Park rangers are **stewards** of these national park areas.



Find the Passport Cancellation Station. Stamp the space below with today's date.

On the map below, draw a house in the state where you live, and a star on the state where Stones River National Battlefield is located.



The Civil War divided the United States. Many people in the nation had been arguing over the issue of slavery. Could states break away, or **secede**, over any issue? This had not been decided by the U.S. Constitution.

After many southern states seceded from the Union, Confederate cannons fired on the Union-controlled Fort Sumter in April 1861. War had begun.

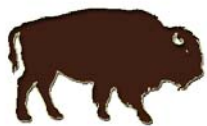
The war lasted four years. At the end of the Civil War in 1865, the Thirteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution was passed, ending slavery in the United States.

The Civil War tore the country apart. It would take many more years to heal the wounds caused by war.

The Battle of Stones River changed the lives of the people who lived and fought here.



**Find an image in the museum that shows how people lived during the Civil War and draw it in the space below.**



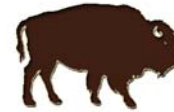
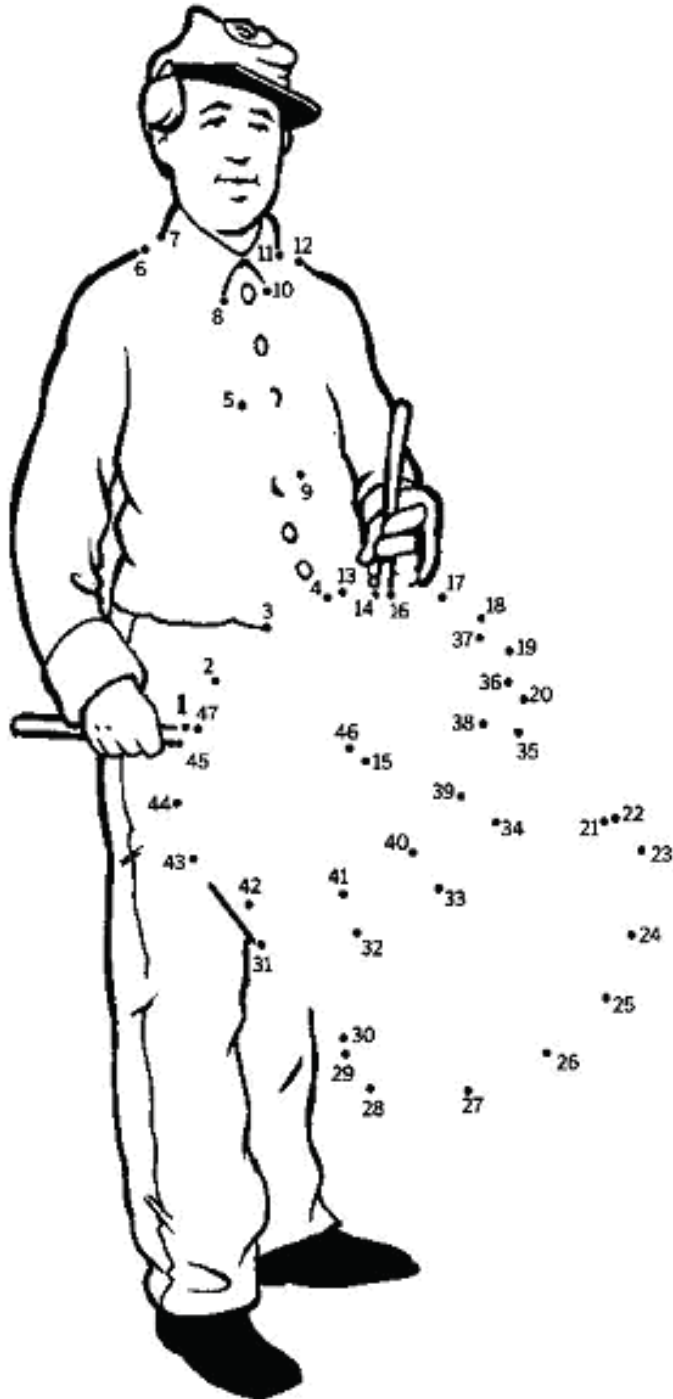
**As you walk through the museum, look for images of what life was like during the Civil War. Make a list of changes caused by the Civil War for the people who lived in Murfreesboro.**



# Military Music



Connect the dots to find out what this soldier is carrying.



Connect the dots, then list five of the instruments displayed in the museum.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

Did you know that the youngest Civil War soldier to fight in the war was only eight years old?

Avery Brown from Ohio fibbed about his age in order to enlist as a drummer.

# The Things They Carried

Soldiers carried their gear with them.

Visit the soldier exhibit in the museum and then fill in the blanks.



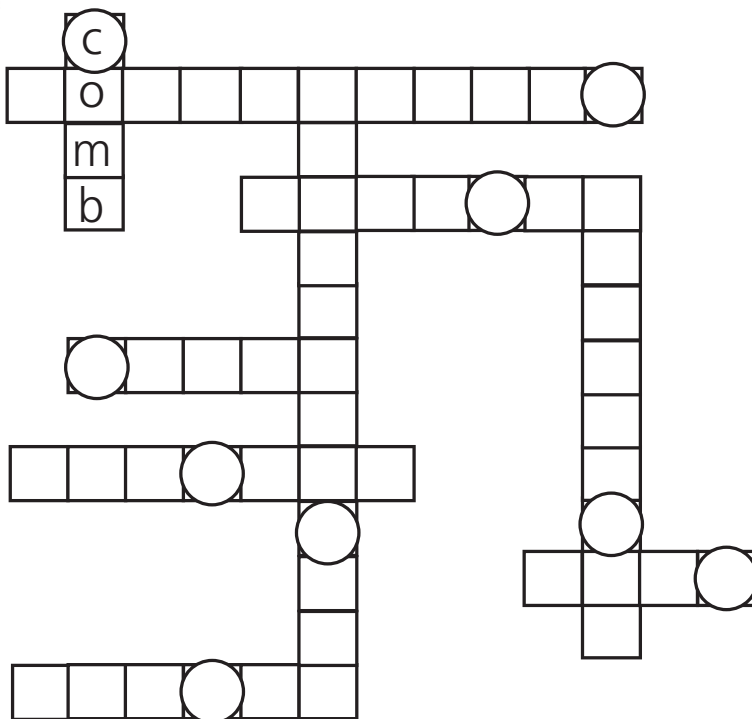
Infantrymen traveled on \_\_\_\_\_.

Union soldiers wore \_\_\_\_\_ wool uniforms.

Confederate soldier uniforms were usually \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.



Use the words below to complete the crossword puzzle.

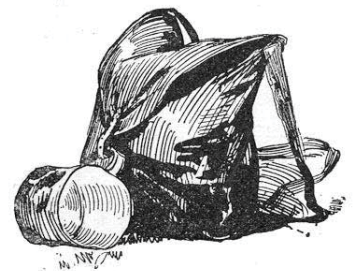


- spoon
- tobacco
- pipe
- matches
- tooth powder
- playing cards
- knives
- comb
- sewing kit

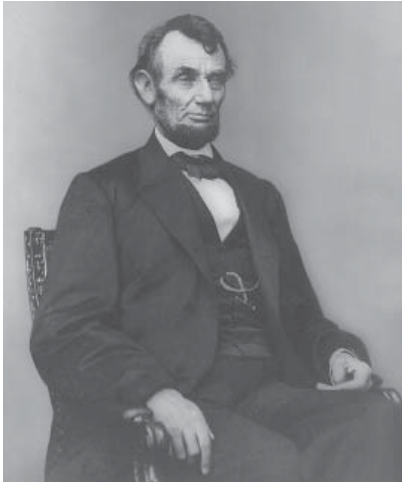


Solve the crossword puzzle. Then unscramble the circled letters to find out what soldiers used to carry their belongings:

h ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○



# Emancipation Proclamation



The timing of the Battle of Stones River was especially important to President Abraham Lincoln. The Union had been losing battles. Lincoln planned to issue the **Emancipation Proclamation** on January 1, 1863 and declare the enslaved people in the Confederate States free. He wanted the Union Army to win the Battle of Stones River.



Use the map in the first room of the museum as a guide to shade in the slave states.



Historians are like detectives. They use photographs and documents called primary sources to learn about history. What do historians know about William Holland?



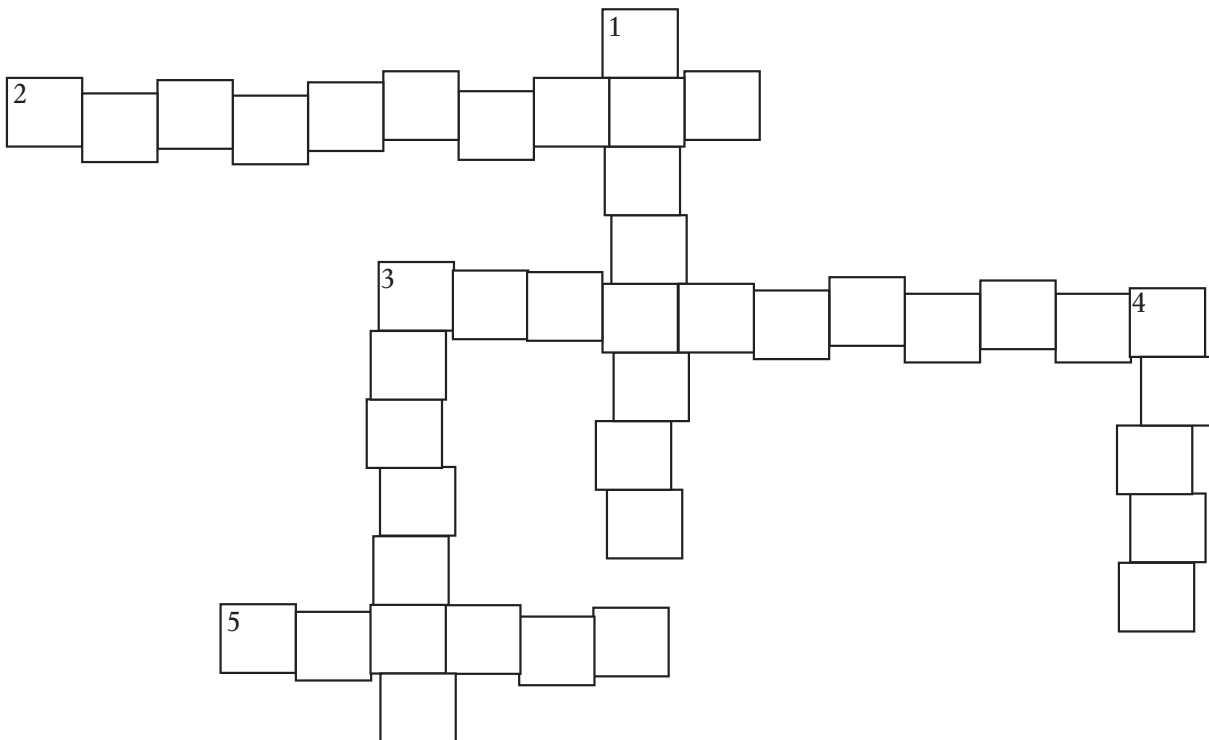
Visit William Holland's grave outside the walls of the Hazen Brigade Monument. Use the wayside marker to complete the puzzle.

### Across

- 2) Holland was honorably \_\_\_\_\_ in 1866.
- 3) No \_\_\_\_\_ of William Holland are known to exist.
- 5) Holland served with the 111th United States Colored \_\_\_\_\_.

### Down

- 1) William Holland lived in a community called \_\_\_\_\_ after the war.
- 3) Holland received his veteran's \_\_\_\_\_ in 1897.
- 4) Before the war, Holland was a \_\_\_\_\_ working on a farm.





Private Spencer Sober wrote to his family describing his time in Murfreesboro:



*Feb. 2, 1863*

*Dear Father and Mother,*

*I now sit down to let you know I have found my **regiment** the very day I reached Murfreesboro. We are encamped about one mile south of the town... It is nice weather down here. All kinds of spring birds are singing in the trees about us. I think we will stay here some time yet... good-bye for the present. Write soon.*

*Yours as ever,*

*Spencer Sober*



Draw a picture below of your favorite part of the battlefield to send home to your family.



Write a letter to a family member or friend and describe your visit to Stones River National Battlefield.

*Dear* \_\_\_\_\_

# The Slaughter Pen

Tour Stop 2  
The Slaughter Pen

As the sun peeked over the horizon on December 31, 1862, the Confederates surprised the Union army with a dawn attack. The Confederates chased the Union soldiers almost one and a half miles to this place. The Union soldiers held their line for over two hours before the Confederates broke through. Union soldiers named this place the “Slaughter Pen” because of all the soldiers killed here.

Take a walk around the Slaughter Pen trail and answer the following questions.



“Boys you must get out of here! You are \_\_\_\_\_!”

Union soldiers in blue from \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ fought then retreated from these rocks as Confederates overwhelmed this place.

Circle your answer.

Would these rocks make it *easy* or *hard* to hide? Would they make it *easy* or *hard* to escape?



As you explore the trails, consider what it would be like to be a soldier fighting in these woods. Complete the activity above, then list how these rocks helped and hindered both the Union troops and the Confederate troops who fought here.

Union

Confederate



# Battles in Tennessee

Tennessee had the second highest number of Civil War battles fought in any state. Virginia had the most. Battles fought in Tennessee played an important role in the outcome of the Civil War. Use the maps in the museum as guides and match the major battles in Tennessee with the numbers on the map below.



\_\_\_\_\_ Battle of Fort Donelson - February 12-16, 1862  
The Confederates surrendered this fort to Union forces on the Cumberland River near Kentucky after battles on land and water.

\_\_\_\_\_ Battle of Shiloh - April 6-7, 1862  
Union forces won this battle near the Mississippi border .

\_\_\_\_\_ Battle of Memphis - June 6, 1862  
This battle on the Mississippi River ended when the city of Memphis surrendered to the U. S. Navy.

\_\_\_\_\_ Battle of Stones River - December 31, 1862 to January 2, 1863  
This battle was fought in the middle of Tennessee and ended in a hard-earned Union victory.

\_\_\_\_\_ Battles for Chattanooga - November 24-25, 1863  
Union forces captured Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge and drove the Confederates into Georgia.

\_\_\_\_\_ Battle of Knoxville/Fort Sanders - November 29, 1863  
The Confederates lost their last chance to regain control of east Tennessee in this battle.

\_\_\_\_\_ Battle of Franklin - November 30, 1864  
Confederates attacked Union forces at this town south of Nashville and lost the battle and thousands of men in just five hours of fighting.

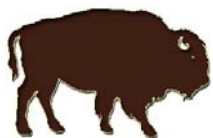
\_\_\_\_\_ Battle of Nashville - December 15-16, 1864  
Union forces crushed the Army of Tennessee in this battle.



Park at or walk to the tour stop called “The Cotton Field” and look across the fields toward the Nashville Pike. On December 31, 1862, Confederate soldiers stood here and faced the field. They had to cross these fields to the road to win the battle. Thousands of Union soldiers and dozens of Union cannons stood between the men in gray and their goal.



Draw a picture of what you see, hear, smell, and feel today on the battlefield. How would it be different if you were a Civil War soldier?



Make a list of words that describe what you see, hear, smell, and feel now. What would you have seen, heard, or felt during the battle?



Describe the differences between the battlefield today and the battlefield during the Civil War.

*NOW*

*THEN*



## This "Precious Dust"

The dead soldiers from both sides were buried where they fell after the battle in 1863. In 1865, Stones River National Cemetery was created. The Union soldiers from this and other battles were reburied here. Of the more than 7,000 people buried at Stones River National Cemetery about 6,100 are Civil War soldiers. Many fallen Confederate soldiers were reburied in a private cemetery south of Murfreesboro and were later moved to Evergreen Cemetery.



Find these headstones in the National Cemetery. Write down the soldier's name and his home state.



N-5390:

C-1323:

O-5921:

I-3528:



Complete the activity above, then answer the following question:  
What did Chaplain Earnshaw mean by the phrase "precious dust"?

### Remember!

When visiting any cemetery, please be respectful by not running or playing in the cemetery and by not sitting or standing on the headstones.

# Hazen Brigade Monument

Visitor Center

Confederate soldiers attacked this area called the Round Forest four times on December 31, 1862. Colonel William B. Hazen's Union soldiers fought hard and held their ground.



After the Battle of Stones River, the soldiers of Hazen's Brigade built this monument on the same land where they stood their ground. It is one of the oldest Civil War monuments in the nation.

In 1985, the park repaired the monument. We found Civil War objects inside left by the soldiers. You can see them in the museum.



In the space below, draw or list items you would put in a time capsule.



Complete the activity above, then explain why you think the soldiers spent their free time building a monument?

From January through June 1863, Fortress Rosecrans was a busy place. Northern soldiers and freed slaves used dirt and logs to protect an area of nearly 200 acres. Inside they stored food, weapons, and other things the men needed. **Enter the fort using the trail next to the parking lot wayside marker and turn left at the first intersection. Look for the answers to these questions on the wayside markers.**

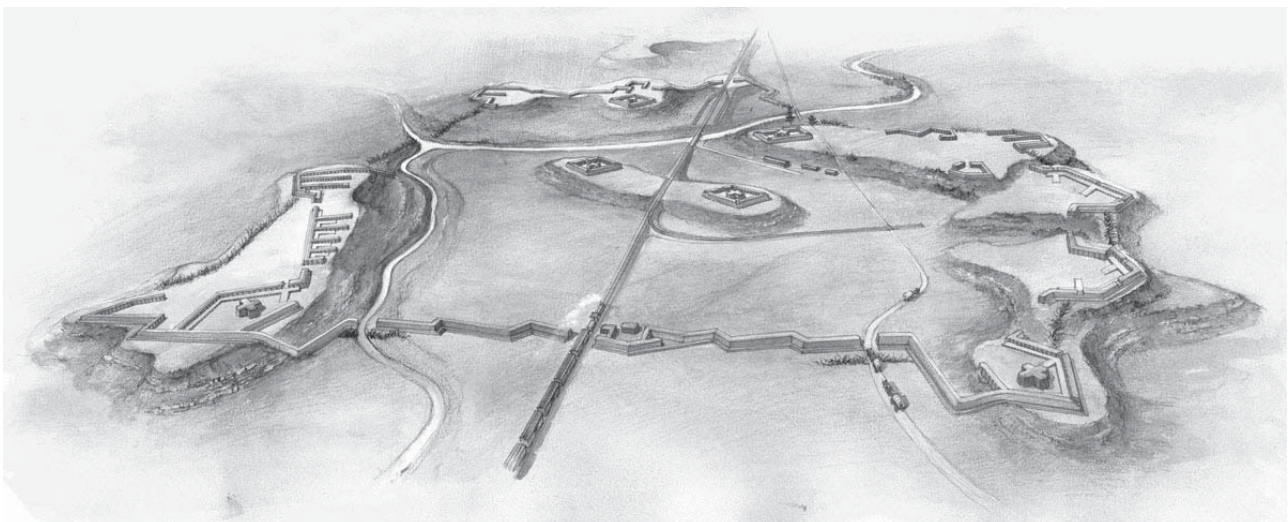
*Remember! Please stay on the trails. Walking on the earthworks could damage them.*



The ten \_\_\_\_\_ of Fortress Rosecrans were designed to allow \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ to sweep every inch of ground in front of the fort.

No \_\_\_\_\_ ever came within range of Fortress Rosecrans's cannon.

At the end of 1863, more than \_\_\_\_\_ cannon were ready to defend Fortress Rosecrans.

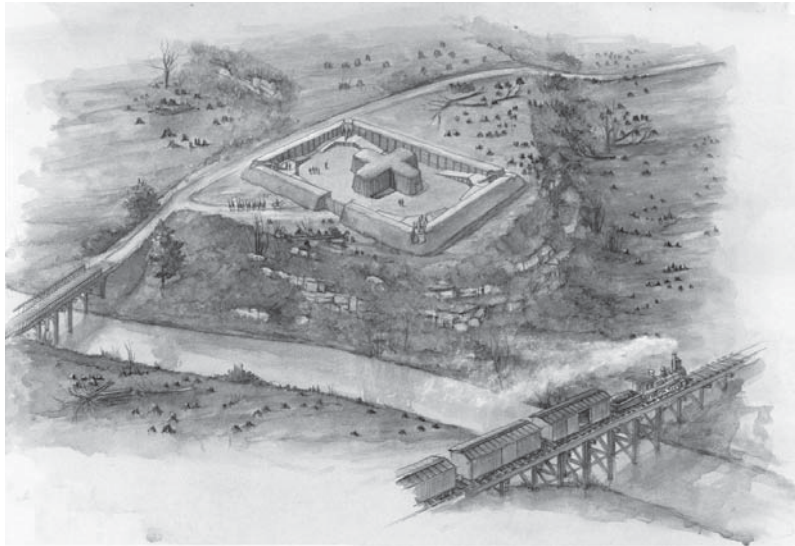




# A Fort Within a Fort

Redoubt  
Brannan

Redoubt Brannan was one of four rectangular shaped fortifications inside Fortress Rosecrans. This picture shows what the **redoubt** might have looked like during the war.



Follow the trail and boardwalk that leads into the redoubt. Use the wayside markers to help answer the following questions.



Who was this **earthwork** named for?

In the picture above, circle the “sally port.”

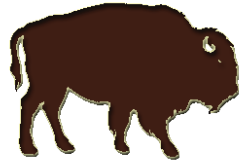
Why is the “sally port” important?

What is the shape of the blockhouse in the middle of the **redoubt**?

Can you see that shape? Why or why not?

Can you see the river from the **redoubt**? Why or why not?

# Artillery Wins the Battle

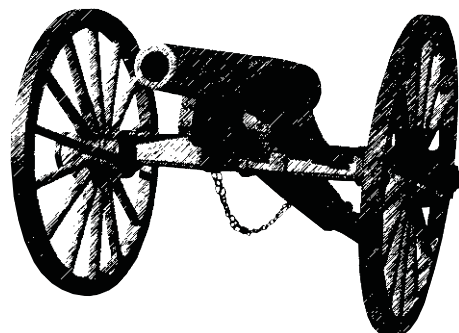


Find the plaque on the Artillery Monument at the McFadden Farm. Use the words from the plaque to fill in the blanks to find out what happened on this hill during the Battle of Stones River.

On \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd, 1863 there were \_\_\_\_\_ on this  
\_\_\_\_\_ fifty-eight \_\_\_\_\_.

As the \_\_\_\_\_ advanced over this \_\_\_\_\_ the  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ from these \_\_\_\_\_  
resulted in a loss of eighteen hundred \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ in less than an \_\_\_\_\_.

The Artillery Monument was built by the Shops of \_\_\_\_\_ in  
July of \_\_\_\_\_.

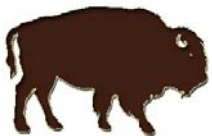


The battlefield is covered by forests, grassy fields, and wetlands where different plants and animals live. These plants and animals were part of the battle story, too. The plants and animals on the battlefield have recovered in the 150 years since the Civil War. As you take the tour, you will notice open, rocky areas in the woods. These cedar glades are the homes of some **native plants** that can be found only in middle Tennessee.

*Please do not walk in the cedar glades. You can kill the plants just by stepping on them.*



What color is the Tennessee Coneflower?  
Can you find it on the battlefield? **Draw a picture of a plant or tree you see on the battlefield in the space below.**



Cedar glades have very little soil to hold water and nutrients and almost no shade. **What do you think glade plants do to survive in these hot, dry areas?** *(If you need help with this question, ask a ranger or volunteer.)*



# Glossary

**artillery** - the part of the army that uses cannons

**earthwork** - a wall or fort made by piling up dirt

**emancipation** - the act of freeing or setting free

**fortification** - a fort or other physical defense position

**infantry** - the part of the army that walks or marches from place to place

**lunette** - a fortification shaped like a crescent moon

**native plant** - a plant that grows in the place where it belongs

**redoubt** - a rectangular fortification often made from piled up dirt

**regiment** - a group of a few hundred to one thousand soldiers.

**secede** - to break away from

**steward** - a person who manages or takes care of something



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA



Didn't have time to finish? Don't worry!  
Just mail in your completed Junior  
Ranger book and we will return it with  
your badge and certificate in the mail:

Stones River National Battlefield  
3501 Old Nashville Hwy  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

You can also visit our website at:  
[www.nps.gov/stri](http://www.nps.gov/stri)

Or call us at: (615) 893-9501