Mapping Concepts in the American Civil War
Warm-Up

- On a loose piece of paper, record three or more responses to the following question:
  What sorts of things can you learn from a map?
Objectives

• In completing this exercise, students will be able to:
  • Identify key features of maps
  • Identify different types of maps
  • Analyze the decision making of cartographers
  • Compare and contrast modern and historical maps
Section I: Components of Maps
4 Essential components of maps

- Title
- Key (Legend)
- Scale
- Compass
Map Scale

- Map Scale effects **details**. A map can be large or small scale. A large-scale map gives a close-up view of a small area, a small-scale map gives a less detailed view of a larger area.

- Try zooming in on your phone and see what details disappear as the map becomes larger scale. Then zoom out and see which objects disappear.

- At the top of page 3 record items which are only visible in large-scale (zoomed in), and items which are visible in small-scale (zoomed out)
Section II: Types of Maps
Climate Maps

- Provide information about the climate and precipitation (rain and snow) of a region.
Physical Maps

• Provide information about the **topography** (shape of the earth’s surface) and physical features in a region. May include mountains, rivers, valleys, etc.

• One special type of physical map is a **topographic map**, which shows elevation (the height of the ground). This is useful to show contours, like hills and valleys.
Political Maps

• Provide information about man-made political boundaries in a region. May include countries, capitals, states, counties, and cities.

• Have you seen any examples of Political Maps in this lesson so far? Where?
Special Purpose Maps/Thematic Maps

- There are many other types of maps which are used for specific purposes. Any time you display Data + Location you get a thematic map.

- For example, you may use a road map to navigate from one city to another.

- Other examples include economic or resource maps
Distribution of Slave Population in the Southern United States, 1861
Section III: Maps of the Civil War