

Lincoln and the Telegraph: The Innovator with the Innovation **Grade Levels: 5-6**

An innovator at heart, President Lincoln revolutionized the use of the telegraph during the Civil War. Lincoln used this new communications tool to gather information and assert his leadership to the front. Prior to Lincoln, rapid exchanges between the Commander-in-Chief and the generals in the field didn't occur.

Students learn about the critical role of the telegraph in the Civil War, use telegraphs to send and receive messages that are combined to reveal one of Lincoln's most important decisions and then view related artifacts in our exhibit, The American Ideal: Abraham Lincoln and the Second Inaugural.

College, Career and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies Standards addressed:

Fifth Grade

D2.His.3.3-5 Generate relevant questions about a topic of study.

D2.Civ.14.3-5 Illustrate historical and contemporary means of changing society.

Sixth Grade

D2.His.3.6-8 Generate and use relevant questions about a topic of study.

D2.Civ.14.6-8 Compare historical and contemporary means of changing societies, and promoting the common good.

D2.His.1.6-8 Analyze connections among events and developments and the individuals or groups who shaped them to understand their historical context and significance.

D2.His.2.6-8 Classify series of historical events and developments as examples of change and/or continuity.

Next Generation Science Standards Addressed:

5-ETS1-1 Define a simple design problem reflecting a need or a want that includes specific criteria for success and constraints on the materials, time or cost.