**Early South Success**

**Section 1**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: What were the key battles at the beginning of |
| 00:00:03 | the Civil War? In the warm-up, you had a chance to learn a little bit about how both sides were unprepared at the start of the war. So what happens when these battles begin? We're going to start off by talking about the very early battles of the war, which were major setbacks for the union. Then we'll go into some details about the bloody |
| 00:00:24 | stalemate at Antietam, which neither side won. And finally, we'll wrap up by talking a little bit about how the South responds to Antietam. But to start, let's talk a little bit about the battle at Bull Run. |

**Section 2**

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| 00:00:00 | TEACHER: Now, the first major battle between the Union and |
| 00:00:02 | the Confederacy occurs on July 21, 1861, with a surprise attack by the Union. Now, this occurs near Manassas, Virginia. And, as we look at the map, we can see that Manassas is located pretty much equidistant between the two capitals of the Union and the Confederacy. The capital of the Union is located here to the north, at Washington, DC. |
| 00:00:26 | And the capital of the Confederacy is located to the south, at Richmond, Virginia. Now, the two sides had different names for this battle. The Union calls it the First Battle of Bull Run. The Confederacy calls it the Battle of Manassas. The two sides often had different names for these battles, perhaps the result of their appreciation for |
| 00:00:48 | different things. The North, tending to appreciate nature, names the battle after a stream in the battlefield. The South, tending to appreciate human-made things, like railroads and cities, names the battle after the railroad junction in which the battle took place. Now, in this battle, we saw 37,000 Union troops face off against 35,000 Confederate troops. |
| 00:01:13 | Initially, the South was on the defense, but the Union was unable to break through the Confederate lines. And by the end of the day, Confederate reinforcements had arrived by train, which forced the Union to retreat. One of the most important commanders in the Battle of Bull Run was Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson. Now, Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson is one of the most admired military leaders in the Confederacy. |
| 00:01:40 | He also serves as Lieutenant General of the Confederate forces. Now, he trains at West Point Military Academy in New York as a young man, and he earns his nickname of "Stonewall" Jackson at the Battle of Bull Run when he and his troops stood like a stone wall against the Union Army. He ultimately becomes famous for his quick maneuver strategies and his personal courage. |

**Section 4**

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| 00:00:00 | TEACHER: The second battle of Bull Run had significant |
| 00:00:03 | effects for both the Union and the Confederacy. On the Union side, this loss shocked and discouraged the Union soldiers. They had expected a quick and easy victory. This loss made them realize that the war would be long and difficult. Now, this loss led to a change in leadership. General Winfield Scott, who had lead the army during that |
| 00:00:26 | second battle of Bull Run, was aging. He was 75 years old, he was getting very ill. And so President Lincoln decides to change the leadership and put the army in the hands of General George McClellan, who was much younger and had more aggressive tactics. On the Confederate side, we saw the result of this victory lead to a bolstering of confidence. |
| 00:00:47 | They now believe that they have a real opportunity to beat the North. |

**Section 6**

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| 00:00:00 | TEACHER: Now the Civil War doesn't take |
| 00:00:02 | place only on land. Both sides are competing fiercely for controlled waterways, ports, and supply channels like the Mississippi River. As a result of this competition, both sides start to develop new technology in the form of a new ship called an ironclad. Now an ironclad is a steam-operated ship that's got |
| 00:00:21 | thick metal plating along its sides for defense. And in March of 1861, the Confederate Army launches a surprise attack with their ironclad, the Merrimac, attacking wooden Union ships. The next day, the Merrimac returns for another attack against the Union ships, but this time, the Union is prepared. They launch attacks against the Merrimac with an ironclad |
| 00:00:46 | of their own, the Monitor. Now these two ships fight against one another for nearly four hours. At the end of this battle, there's no clear winner, but it does change warship design going forward. As a result of this battle, these old wooden ships are now obsolete. And what you're going to find all over the world are |
| 00:01:07 | countries building ironclads of their own. |

**Section 8**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: Now, as a result of all of the technological |
| 00:00:04 | development of the time, the Civil War is often called the first modern war, because of all this new technology. Some of this technology included the very first submarine to sink an enemy ship. Now, this was done by the Confederate side, with the submarine the Hunley, which sank a Union ship. But it unfortunately also sank itself in that explosion. We also see the introduction of large bullets |
| 00:00:30 | called minie bullets. These bullets were used by both sides of the army. And they caused very much increased damage. This is because the design allows for the rapid firing rifles. And the widespread use of rifles increases on the battlefield as a result of this development. The Union also starts to use something |
| 00:00:52 | called the Gatling gun. And we see an example of the Gatling gun pictured here. This is kind of an early form of the machine gun. And it could fire 200 times per minute. We also saw the Union using hot air balloons that could reach 3,500 feet, and see distances up to 6 miles. Finally, the use of trains for battle to transport troops quickly over large distances were used. |
| 00:01:22 | Now, all of these new technologies made the Civil War an extremely deadly conflict. This is because even with the new technology, both sides were still incorporating outdated tactics. Meaning that they're doing things like charging the defenses that now have greater ability to shoot them from further away. So we see that the conflict becomes more and more deadly, |
| 00:01:50 | as a result of the combination of new technology and old strategies. |

**Section 9**

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| 00:00:02 | TEACHER: What were the key battles at the beginning of |
| 00:00:04 | the Civil War? We've had a chance to examine the early setbacks for the Union. These setbacks, like losing the first Battle of Bull Run, completely disgraced and shocked the Union army. So we're going to move on to talk a little bit about the bloody stalemates that followed these early battles. A stalemate is when neither side is able to gain any sort |
| 00:00:24 | of an advantage. |

**Section 10**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: So after its disastrous loss at Bull Run, |
| 00:00:04 | the Union needed to regroup. And as we mentioned previously, one of the ways it regroups is by appointing a new Union commander, a man named George McClellan, who was young, had a lot of military experience, and specifically had experience training soldiers. Now he was able to build a very powerful army with all of this experience. |
| 00:00:24 | But he hesitated to bring that army into battle. As a matter of fact, Lincoln had to direct order him to launch a new military campaign. Now this new campaign comes in the form of the second battle at Bull Run. This happens August 29th and 30th of 1862, when 56,000 Confederate soldiers face off against 70,000 Union soldiers. The Confederate strategy was simple-- |
| 00:00:54 | to split its forces and surround the Union. And this was effective even though they had far less men in battle. The Confederate forces were able to win this battle, but at the very high cost of lives-- 9,000 Confederate soldiers dead and 15,000 Union soldiers dead. As a result of this victory, the Confederate army had the |
| 00:01:16 | opportunity to continue advancing north, which directly put Washington DC in danger. |

**Section 12**

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| 00:00:00 | TEACHER: By 1862, Confederate forces were continuing to |
| 00:00:03 | advance towards Washington. So from the South, we see that General Lee is making his way towards Maryland. Now, as a result of this, General McClellan from the North moves to block him. These two sides end up meeting at Antietam, Maryland, which is known as Sharpsburg in the South, in September of 1862. As a result of this battle at Antietam, September 17, 1862 |
| 00:00:31 | becomes known as the bloodiest day of battle in US history. In total, about 23,000 soldiers were killed or wounded in action-- about 10,000 on the Confederate side and over 12,000 on the Union side. Eventually, the Confederate army retreats back into Virginia. Now, because the Union was able to stop the Confederacy |
| 00:00:54 | from moving into Washington, this is seen as a strategic victory on the side of the Union. However, Antietam had both positive and negative effects for the Union. On the positive side, they were able to stop the Confederate offensive, and that lifted Union spirits and kept Washington safe. However, on the negative side, just like the Confederates, |
| 00:01:18 | the Union did suffer heavy casualties. And because he did not take advantage of going after General Lee when he had the chance, McClellan was removed from commander of the Army, so they had to restrategize their leadership at this point. Now, the Battle of Antietam was significant and important to both sides. Primarily, it convinced President Lincoln to issue the |
| 00:01:42 | Emancipation Proclamation. Now, this was a written proclamation that he was saving for a Union victory. It would free all of the enslaved people in the Confederate states. It also gave the Union new momentum. It showed that they had a chance of winning. And as a result, it slows the South's momentum. |
| 00:02:02 | Finally, it convinces Great Britain not to recognize the Confederate states as an independent country. Now, this was important because the Confederate army was hoping that they would be able to use Britain's support to help them win the war. |

**Section 14**

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| 00:00:00 | TEACHER: Now, to recap, we're trying to answer the question, |
| 00:00:03 | what were the key battles at the start of the Civil War? What we've learned so far is that the Union suffers another crushing defeat at the second battle of Bull Run. We went on to talk about the Battle of Antietam, which becomes known as the bloodiest day of battle in US history. At the end of this battle, there's no clear winner. But the Union sees a strategic victory. And so this bolsters the Union confidence going forward, |
| 00:00:28 | leading them to a new offensive. We'll soon see, though, that this new offensive only leads to more victories for the South. |

**Section 15**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: Now, after the Battle of Antietam, President Lincoln |
| 00:00:03 | decides to replace General McClellan General Ambrose Burnside. Fun fact about General Burnside is the word "sideburns" actually comes from him. Now General Burnside has a lot of experience. He commanded forces at Antietam. He also wants to employ a new, more aggressive strategy for the Union going forward. |
| 00:00:23 | His alternative goal is to capture the Confederate capital at Richmond, Virginia, and decides to pursue that goal by crossing the river at Fredericksburg, Virginia and moving towards the Confederate capital at Richmond. Now before he could cross the river, he finds himself delayed because of weather, miscommunication. He doesn't have the equipment he needs to cross the river. In that time that he was delayed, General Lee is able |
| 00:00:55 | to set up a blockade with his Confederate Army to prevent the Union forces from crossing the river. And so on December 13, 1862, these two sides meet in a battle at Fredericksburg, Virginia. In this battle, we see 120,000 Union troops facing off against 78,000 Confederate troops. Now because of the delay in crossing the river, General Lee was able to set up a strong defensive position. |
| 00:01:23 | And when General Burnside attempts to cross the river to attack, he faces that blockade, and ultimately faces a major loss in this battle. As a result of the heavy casualties, nearly twice as many losses on the Union side as the Confederate side, we see the Confederacy see a major victory. This victory allows the Confederates to feel new confidence facing the setback at Antietam. |

**Section 17**

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| 00:00:02 | TEACHER: Now following the Union's loss at |
| 00:00:04 | Fredericksburg, President Lincoln decides to make another change in command. He decides to replace General Burnside as the Union commander with General Joseph Hooker. Now, General Hooker has plenty of military experience in other wars. He fought in the Seminole Wars, he fought in the Mexican-American War, and he had led Union forces in |
| 00:00:25 | earlier battles, including Antietam and Fredericksburg. His ultimate goal was to surround and destroy General Lee's forces. He had the first opportunity to do this at the Battle of Chancellorsville. Now, this battle begins on May 1, 1863 when General Stonewall Jackson attacks General Hooker's forces in a surprise attack. |
| 00:00:52 | Now, although 60,000 Confederate were more than twice outnumbered by 130,000 Union troops over the course of five days and General Jackson was killed in this battle, the Confederates were able to pull out yet another victory, and General Hooker decides to retreat. Do note the patterns in these early battles. Now, to summarize visually what we've talked about to this point, these early battles of the Civil War, |
| 00:01:26 | we've got a timeline that we can outline here. We'll begin with the very first battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861, resulting in a Confederate victory. After this battle, we find that the war goes to the water. And we've got these two ironclad, the Monitor going up against the Merrimack, resulting in a draw, but ultimately changing the course of warfare as the world knows |
| 00:01:53 | it from that point forward. In August of 1862, there's another battle at Bull Run, another Confederate victory. And about three weeks later, we see the battle of Antietam, known as the bloodiest battle in US history, ultimately resulting in a stalemate or a draw. However, McClellan's forces do retreat, so that gives the Confederate side a bit of strategic |
| 00:02:24 | elements going forward. In December of 1862 we find the Battle of Fredericksburg, another Confederate victory. And finally by May of 1863, a surprise attack at Chancellorsville leads to yet another Confederate victory. So as we can see here, the Confederacy wins most of those early battles of the war. |