War Reaches Home

Indiana's contributions to the Union and the costs of war

IS.1.7 "Analyze how the Civil War impacted individuals, families, and communities throughout Indiana. Explain how Hoosiers contributed to the Union's efforts during the war."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two ways Hoosiers supported the Union, and circle two effects of the war on families or communities. Draw an arrow from each underlined action to a related circled effect.

Indiana's War, at Home and Away

1. In 1861, Indiana families heard calls for volunteers to defend the Union. More than 200,000 Hoosiers eventually served in Union forces, leaving farms, shops, and households short of workers. A soldier's pay could help a family, but it did not replace the work that person had done at home. Relatives took on extra planting, repairs, and care for children. Letters from camps and battlefields helped families stay in touch, yet news could arrive weeks late. Death and injury brought grief and financial strain that lasted long after a battle. Military service was a public contribution with private costs.

2. War also reached Indiana communities without waiting for a letter. In July 1863, Confederate cavalry under John Hunt Morgan crossed into southern Indiana. Near Corydon, local militia tried to stop the raiders, but Morgan's force won the brief fight. His men seized horses and supplies as they moved through the state. For residents, the raid meant interrupted work, damaged property, and fear that more fighting might follow. Militia members defended their neighbors, while those neighbors faced losses at home. The raid showed that even a state far from the main battlefront could bear sudden costs and take part in its own defense.

3. Indiana's support for the Union extended beyond armed patrols. Women organized aid societies that collected food, clothing, and medical supplies for soldiers. These efforts used time and materials that households also needed. Black men enlisted in Indiana's 28th United States Colored Troops, a regiment that fought in Virginia, including near Petersburg. They served a country that still denied Black people equal treatment, including in Indiana. Their military service challenged claims that Black Americans should have no place in the Union's future. Together, soldiers and civilian volunteers linked Indiana communities to the war's battles, even as their own families bore the demands of service.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How could a Hoosier's military service both help and strain that person's family?

2. How did people near Corydon contribute to the defense of Indiana, and how did the raid affect their community?

3. What did men in Indiana's 28th United States Colored Troops contribute to the Union, and why did their service carry added significance?

4. How did aid societies connect Indiana households to Union soldiers, and what did that work demand at home?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write an 80 to 100 word museum label about an imagined Indiana household during the war. Show how two members could support the Union in different ways and explain one cost their household or community might face, using details from the passage without presenting the household as a documented family.

ANSWER KEY

War Reaches Home

HIGH SCHOOL · IS.1.7

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two ways Hoosiers supported the Union, and circle two effects of the war on families or communities. Draw an arrow from each underlined action to a related circled effect. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How could a Hoosier's military service both help and strain that person's family?	**A soldier's pay could help, but the family lost a worker and took on extra tasks. Injury or death could also bring grief and financial strain.**
2	How did people near Corydon contribute to the defense of Indiana, and how did the raid affect their community?	**Local militia tried to stop Morgan's raiders. Residents faced seized horses and supplies, damaged property, interrupted work, and fear.**
3	What did men in Indiana's 28th United States Colored Troops contribute to the Union, and why did their service carry added significance?	**They fought in Virginia, including near Petersburg. Their service challenged claims that Black Americans had no place in the Union's future, despite unequal treatment.**
4	How did aid societies connect Indiana households to Union soldiers, and what did that work demand at home?	**Women collected food, clothing, and medical supplies for soldiers, using time and materials their own households also needed.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Imagine a family near Corydon in 1863. One adult serves in the local militia when Morgan's raiders enter Indiana. Another helps an aid society gather clothing for Union soldiers. Both actions support the Union, but they create different pressures at home. The raid interrupts work in the area, while time spent collecting clothing leaves less time for household tasks. This household is imagined, but the militia's defense, the raid's effects, and aid societies' work reflect experiences described in the passage.

Accept other passage-supported links between Union contributions and their effects on individuals, families, or communities. For the museum label, look for two distinct contributions, a plausible cost, and clear language identifying the household as imagined.