Faces of War

Submitted by Janet Johnson 6th grade teacher

Objective: This lesson for 6th -8th graders will compare and contrast the face of Abraham Lincoln in 1860 and 1865.

Materials:

Photo of Lincoln in 1860:
 "Cooper Union Portrait" by Matthew Brady
 www.npg.si.edu/exhibit/lincoln/pop-ups/01-04.html

• Photo of Lincoln in 1865:

"Abraham Lincoln, 1865" by Alexander Gardner
http://npgportraits.si.edu/emuseumnpg/code/emuseum.asp?page=search_basicNPG&profile=NPG

NPG.81.M1.D1

Lincoln life mask:

Leonard Volk, 1860

www.npg.si.edu/exhibit/Lincoln/pop-ups/02-15.html

Lincoln life mask

Clark Mills, 1865

http://npgportraits.si.edu/emuseumnpg/code/emuseum.asp?page=search_basicNPG&profile=NPG

NPG. 71.26

Procedure:

- Have students work in pairs. Give one student a copy of Matthew Brady's 1860 image of Lincoln, and give the other student a copy of Alexander Gardner's 1865 image of Lincoln.
- After studying the images, the pairs of students should discuss these images with each other, and each student should record 3-5 adjectives describing both faces.
- After students have had the opportunity to discuss both images, teachers should make a T-chart
 on the white board to compare and contrast President Lincoln's physical appearance in 1860
 and 1865. The students should add ideas to the T-chart. While the teacher records their
 answers on the white board, each student should record these on their own paper.

Example:

1860	1865
Lawyer	Civil War
House of Rep.	Death of Willie
Lincoln/Douglas	Battle of Gettysburg
Start of Civil War	etc.

Writing:

Students should write a three paragraph paper with an introduction, body, and conclusion. The body must have details about Lincoln's life in 1860 and 1865, which compare and contrast the details that caused Abraham Lincoln's face to change so drastically.