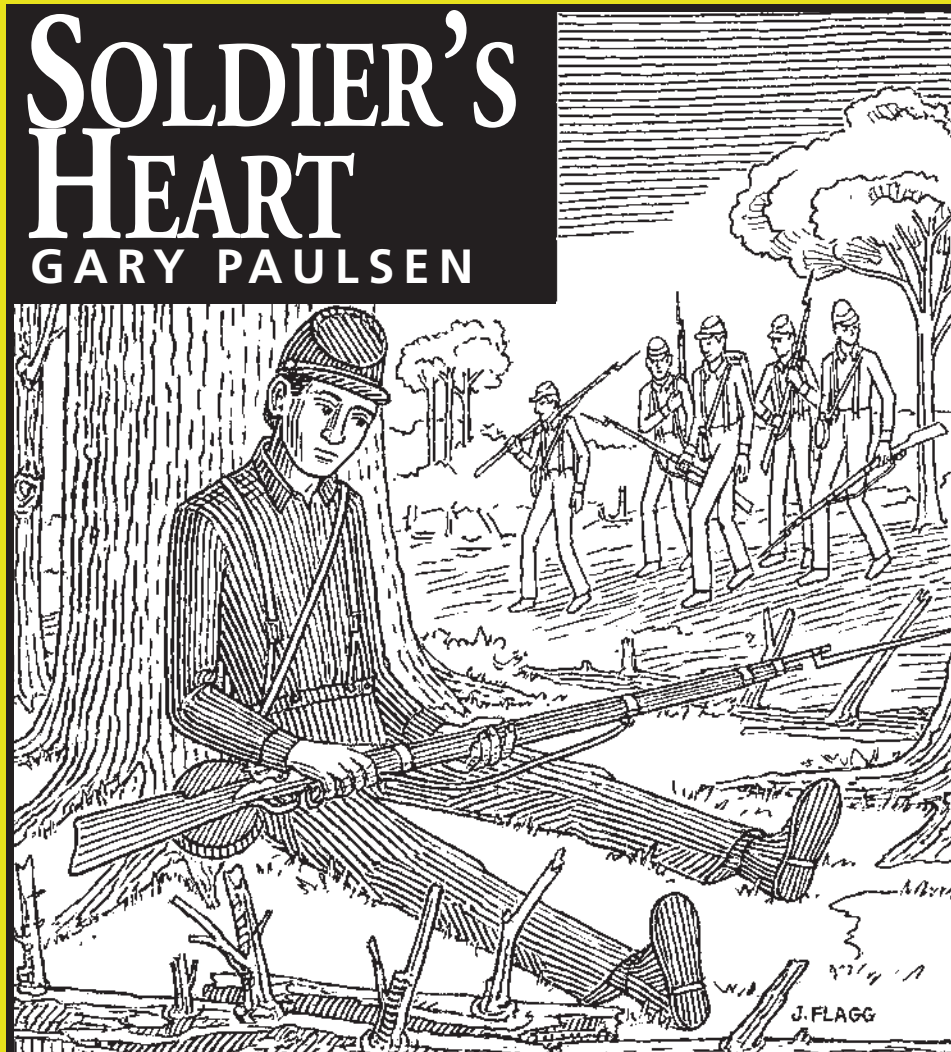


Novel·Ties



A Study Guide

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LEARNING LINKS

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For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide to use in conjunction with the novel *Soldier's Heart* consists of lessons for guided reading. Written in chapter-by-chapter format, the guide contains a synopsis, pre-reading activities, vocabulary and comprehension exercises, as well as extension activities to be used as follow-up to the novel.

In a homogeneous classroom, whole class instruction with one title is appropriate. In a heterogeneous classroom, reading groups should be formed: each group works on a different novel at its own reading level. Depending upon the length of time devoted to reading in the classroom, each novel, with its guide and accompanying lessons, may be completed in three to six weeks.

Begin using NOVEL-TIES for reading development by distributing the novel and a folder to each child. Distribute duplicated pages of the study guide for students to place in their folders. After examining the cover and glancing through the book, students can participate in several pre-reading activities. Vocabulary questions should be considered prior to reading a chapter; all other work should be done after the chapter has been read. Comprehension questions can be answered orally or in writing. The classroom teacher should determine the amount of work to be assigned, always keeping in mind that readers must be nurtured and that the ultimate goal is encouraging students' love of reading.

The benefits of using NOVEL-TIES are numerous. Students read good literature in the original, rather than in abridged or edited form. The good reading habits, formed by practice in focusing on interpretive comprehension and literary techniques, will be transferred to the books students read independently. Passive readers become active, avid readers.

tions were so bad that many soldiers died of disease. Battle casualties were heavy in the war's early years because troops still fought in old-fashioned formations, becoming easy targets for enemy fire.

General George B. McClellan was ordered to Washington to take charge of the troops in and around the capital. He enforced discipline and started an extensive training program for the soldiers. In November, he became general-in-chief. He would be followed by others, none of whom proved to be effective. Lincoln kept searching for a general who could lead the Union to victory. More and more, he thought of Ulysses S. Grant, who continued to win battles in the West. In 1864, Lincoln appointed him commander of the Union forces.

The turning point of the war came with the Union victory at the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1–3, 1863. This battle left more than 40,000 dead or wounded. The fighting continued for two more years, until the Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Grant at Virginia's Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865.

PRE-READING QUESTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

1. Preview the book by reading the title and author's name and by looking at the illustration on the cover. What can you predict about this novel? When and where do you think it takes place? Will it be serious or humorous? Have you read any other books by the same author?
2. **Geography Connection:** As you read, use the map at the beginning of the book to trace Charley's progress throughout the book.
3. **Social Studies Connection:** Read the background information on page two of this study guide and do some additional research to learn more about the major battles of the Civil War, particularly the first Battle of Bull Run and the Battle of Gettysburg. Then brainstorm with a small group of classmates to fill in the first two columns of a K-W-L chart, such as the one below. When you finish the book, return to the chart to complete the third column.

Civil War Battles

What I Know -K-	What I Want to Learn -W-	What I Learned -L-

4. *Soldier's Heart* is a work of historical fiction—one that uses history as a background for imagined events. The characters in such a work may be fictional or historical or both. Read the Author's Note at the end of the book to find out about the real person upon whom this book is based. Then go to the Internet and do a search for "Charles Goddard." As you read the book, determine whether or not the author took artistic license with Goddard's life story.
5. Before you begin Chapter One, read the Author's Foreword. Determine the author's feelings about war in general and why he thought the Civil War might have been the worst for those who fought. Also, learn what is meant by the term "soldier's heart."
6. Notice the Glossary on page four of this study guide. Review words that are unfamiliar to you. As you read, refer to the glossary as needed.