Mary kept a diary during the Civil War. Events dramatized are actual happenings and most of the words come straight from her diary. Mary actually spent time at Kensington Plantation where story was taped.
Idella Bodie’s South Carolina Women Series

About the Series

*Idella Bodie’s South Carolina Women* series supports social studies standards for grades 3-8 and the interesting programs are good to use during Women’s History Month! Each dramatization tells the story of women who have shaped SC history and politics.

Produced by ETV at historical homes and sites, the stories were adapted with permission and input from author Idella Bodie, taken from her book *South Carolina Women*. S.C. educators may access the 12 programs and supporting teacher’s guides.

South Carolina Social Studies Standards

The Civil War

Forces of Unity and Division -The Crisis of the 1850s

– Southern States Secede

Grade 3

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of life in the antebellum period, the causes and effects of the Civil War, and the impact of Reconstruction in South Carolina.
Idella Bodie’s South Carolina Women Series

3-4.1 – Compare the economic conditions of various classes of people in South Carolina, including the elite, the middle class, the lower class, the independent farmers, and the enslaved and free African Americans.

3-4.2 – Summarize the development of slavery in antebellum South Carolina, including the invention of the cotton gin and subsequent expansion of and economic dependence on slavery.

3-4.3 – Explain the reasons for South Carolina’s secession from the Union, including the abolitionist movement and the concept of states’ rights.

Grade 4

Standard 4-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes, the course, and the effects of the American Civil War.

4-6.2 – Explain the contributions of abolitionists to the mounting tensions between the North and South over slavery, including William Lloyd Garrison, Sojourner Truth, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and John Brown.

Grade 8

Standard 8-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the multiple events that led to the Civil War.

8-4.1 – Explain the importance of agriculture in antebellum South Carolina, including the plantation system and the impact of the cotton gin on all social classes.
Idella Bodie’s South Carolina Women Series

8-4.2 – Analyze how sectionalism arose from racial tension, including Denmark Vesey plot, slaves codes and the growth of the abolitionist movement.

8-4.3 – Analyze key issues that led to South Carolina’s secession from the Union, including the nullification controversy and John C. Calhoun, the extension of slavery and the compromises over western expansion, the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the Dred Scott decision, and the election of 1860.

8-4.4 – Evaluate the arguments of unionists, cooperationists, and secessionists on the issues of states’ rights and slavery and the ways that these arguments contributed to South Carolina’s secession.

Biography

The Story of the Grimke’ Sisters profiles two sisters who grew up in Charleston in the early 1800’s. Two of fourteen children of the well-to-do Grimke’ family, Sarah and Angelina were part of the privileged aristocratic Southern culture. Judge Grimke’, their father, was a prominent figure in South Carolina legal circles as well as owner of a large Southern plantation with many slaves.

Sarah witnessed at an early age the horrors of slave punishment losing her own best friend and personal slave to death at the hands of the slave master. Never the same, Sarah lived her life fighting for equal rights for all people. The dramatization follows Sarah’s life as she becomes conscious of major differences in the rights of women and slaves. Bright and accomplished, Sarah was not allowed to further her studies in the field of law because she was a woman. Her crusade for equal rights led her to the Quakers of Philadelphia.
As Godmother to her younger sister, Sarah’s influence clearly impacted Angelina’s belief in equal rights for all. Angelina Grimke’ was the first woman to speak to a legislative body in the United States. Active in human rights efforts for all people, the Grimke’ sisters were true South Carolina heroines risking their lives for the rights of all people. The two sisters changed the course of history in both South Carolina and the United States of America.

**Video Listing**

1. **Episode 101 (1:46)**
   *An introduction to the story of the Grimké sisters, who spoke in public as abolitionists and for the equal rights of women, a difficult feat in the 1800s.*

2. **Episode 102 (3:09)**
   *Young Sarah sees a slave whipped when she is a young child, a sight that affects her all of her life. Her sister Angelina is born, who becomes her closest sibling.*

3. **Episode 103 (8:58)**
   *Sarah is caught teaching her father’s slaves to read, and learns at that time it was illegal to teach slaves to read. Sarah doesn’t understand these laws and the belief women should not learn law or medicine.*

4. **Episode 104 (3:00)**
   *Sarah cares for and teaches Angelina, her younger sister, who begins to show compassion for slaves and a similar mentality to Sarah.*
Idella Bodie’s South Carolina Women Series

5. Episode 105 (12:16)
Angelina and Sarah grow older, and Sarah, with the permission of her mother, decides to move to Philadelphia to search for acceptance and a world in which she can speak her mind.

6. Episode 106 (5:32)
After Sarah leaves for Philadelphia, Angelina soon follows her sister, later becoming the first woman to speak in front of a legislative body in the United States. The two fought together and wrote pamphlets speaking for the rights of slaves and women.

Vocabulary

Abolish – to do away with
Abolition – the termination of slavery in the United States
Abolitionist – one who works to terminate slavery in the United States
Equal rights – having the same value and rights as another
Emancipation – to free from oppression, bondage, or restraint; liberate
Human rights – characteristic of mankind and the rights of all people
Law – a rule established by authority, society, or custom; the body or system of such rules
Lawyer – one whose profession is to give legal advice and assistance to clients in court or in other legal matters
Slave – one bound in servitude to a person or household as an instrument of labor
Slavery – bondage to a master or household
Underground Railroad – a secret network of cooperation aiding fugitive slaves in reaching sanctuary in the free states
Idella Bodie’s South Carolina Women Series

Quotes & Facts

“I can hardly express the deep and solemn interest with which I have viewed the violent proceedings...This is a cause with dying for.” Angelina Grimke’

Sarah was the 6th child out of the 14 Grimke’s children. Angelina was the youngest.

Feeling lonely and different from other family members, Sarah welcomed the birth of her new baby sister, Angelina. Angelina became Sarah’s closest sibling. The only other sibling Sarah felt close to was her brother Thomas.

Sarah enjoyed studying the law with her brother Thomas. She dreamed of pursuing a college education. Only Thomas encouraged her in this dream.

Sarah became more determined to follow her heart than the rules of the house.

“After being gone for many months in Pennsylvania, when I went back it seemed as if the sight of (the slaves’) condition was insupportable, it burst the mind with new horror.” Sarah Grimke’

Angelina was the first woman to speak to a legislative body in The United States.

Sarah Grimke wrote... “All I ask of our brethren is that they will take their feet from off our necks and permit us to stand upright on the ground which God intended us to occupy.”

Angelina Grimke wrote... “Whatever is morally right for a man to do, it is morally right for a woman to do. I recognize no rights but human rights. I know nothing of men’s rights and women’s rights.”
Idella Bodie’s South Carolina Women Series

Classroom Activities

Related to the study of the abolition of slavery and equal rights for all

Although these are different types of movements, many of the people and concepts overlap in their search for human rights for all.

Biographies: Select from the listing below a famous person who played an important role in the abolition of slavery. Design a biography of the individual as a report or display.


Compare and Contrast Historical Perspective: Compare and contrast the life of a slave on a Southern plantation with a Northern free man. Discuss in class.

Research: Individual students or small groups. With each topic, list the facts about the document and the impact that it had on The United States at the time.

Fugitive Slave Law from the Missouri Compromise of 1820, Compromise of 1850, Gag Rule, Underground Railroad, Bill of Rights

Research: When did President Lincoln free the slaves? What impact did the Emancipation Proclamation have on the North and the South?

Analysis: Why did the Wilmot Proviso threaten to fuel sectional tensions in Congress? How might such a bill have either caused or created an imbalance of power in Congress?

Debate: Debate the conflicting role of women in the 1800’s. How did the attitudes toward women impact social, culture and historical perspectives of that time.
Idella Bodie’s South Carolina Women Series

**Biographies:** Select from the listing below a famous person who played an important role in the fight for equal rights. What contributions did she make to the equal rights movement for women? How did her contribution impact our life today?

Susan B. Anthony, Julia Ward Howe, Martha Moore Ballard, Anne Hutchinson, Elizabeth Blackwell, Lucretia Mott, Matilda Joslyn Gage, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Angelina Grimké, Mercy Otis Warren

**Suggested Literature**


Bodie, Idella. *Spunky Revolutionary War Heroine,* Sandlapper Publishing, 2000. Laodicea “Dicey” Langston paid close attention to the words and actions of her Tory neighbors. Risking her life, she traveled on foot at night (about ten miles) to deliver a message of impending attack to her brother’s Patriot camp. (NA)

Bodie, Idella. *The Old Wagoner,* Sandlapper Publishing, 2002. Daniel Morgan led a company of militia through numerous battles including Saratoga. But his finest moment was leading the southern Patriot force to a brilliant victory over Banastre Tarleton at Cowpens--using a risky battle plan. (NA)

Bodie, Idella. *Revolutionary Swamp Fox,* Sandlapper Publishing, 1998. Francis Marion and his band of militiamen fought the British in sneak attacks, and then melted away into the swamps to hide and recover. Marion was the undoubted hero of militia warfare.
Idella Bodie’s South Carolina Women Series

during the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution. (NA)

Bodie, Idella. *South Carolina Women*, Sandlapper Publishing, 1991. This book is a compilation of the biographies of 51 notable women of the Palmetto State who have made significant contributions in all areas of South Carolina history.


Alphin, Elaine Marie. *The Ghost Cadet*. New York: Scholastic, 1992. While visiting his grandmother in Virginia, Benjy meets a Virginia Military Institute cadet who was killed on the Civil War battlefield that he continues to haunt in search of a family heirloom.

Hansen, Joyce. *I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly: The Diary of Patsy, A Freed Girl*. Dear America Series. New York: Scholastic, 1997. This is the fictional diary of the freed slave Patsy, who records her journey from the confusing times at the end of the Civil War to the life she ultimately builds for herself as a teacher. (820L)

Hesse, Karen. *A Light in the Storm: The Civil War Diary of Amelia Martin*. Dear America Series. New York: Scholastic, 1999. While working in her father’s lighthouse in Delaware, fifteen-year-old Amelia records in her diary how the tensions between the North and the South are beginning to divide her community.


Idella Bodie’s South Carolina Women Series

chained, and sent to America to live as a slave in a strange world. (860L)

Paulsen, Gary. *Nightjohn*. Laurel-Leaf Books, 1993. Sarny is a slave who wants to read and write, and Nightjohn is a slave who returned from freedom in the North to educate his friends. (770L)


Ransom, Candice F. *The Promise Quilt*. New York: Walker, 1999. Five-year-old Addie’s father dies in the Civil War, but with the help of her mother, Addie will fulfill the promise she made to her father to earn an education.

Reeder, Carolyn. *Across the Lines*. New York: William Morrow, 1998. The Civil War and its issues are shown from the perspective of young Edward as he flees from the Yankees with his house servant, who is escaping from slavery.


Lerner, Gerda. *The Grimke’ Sisters from South Carolina; Rebels Against Slavery*.

Lickteig, Mary. *Amelia Bloomer: A Photo-Illustrated Biography*. Bridgestone Books, Inc. A brief biography of the temperance leader & women's rights advocate who spent her life trying to improve social conditions for women. (540L)
Idella Bodie’s South Carolina Women Series


Suggested Internet Sources

The Selected Internet Resources can be used both by the instructor and by students. Supervision of student use of Web sites is recommended. Other site resources are available. The sites were active at time of publication.

Amazing Women in War and Peace
http://userpages.aug.com/captbarb/femvets.html

Organization of American Historians
http://www.oah.org/pubs/magazine/women/hanson.htm

South Carolina’s Information Highway, Important Events
http://www.sciway.net/hist/people/women.htm

Credits

Executive Producers: Linda DuRant and Bette Jamison
Director: Pat Henry
Videographer: Mark Adams

South Carolina Social Studies Standard Correlations were provided by Lisa Ray

Funding for Knowitall.org was provided by the S. C. General Assembly through the K-12 Technology Initiative.

Visit scetv.org/education for more educational resources.