

Lesson: *Frank, Frederick, & Alice*

Background

After every Civil War battle, burial details combed the fields and searched the dead soldiers for any form of identification. Only a small number of soldiers wore ID badges, like dog tags, stamped with their names and companies. A few sewed their names inside their jackets, or like Confederate Private Thomas Wood, marked their hats with their initials.

After the Battle of Gettysburg, a Union soldier was discovered with no form of identification other than an ambrotype of three children clutched in his hands. A Philadelphia physician acquired this photography and brought the matter to the attention of the newspaper, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. The paper published an article describing the children in hopes that the soldier's family could be located.

Lesson Procedure:

Encourage students to generate and test a hypothesis about the image by answering the following questions:

- Why do you think the image was made?
- What's happening in the image?
- Who was the audience for the image?
- What can you learn from examining the image?
- What is missing from this image?
- If someone made this image today, how would it be different? What would be the same?

Write

Write a newspaper article for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* to help locate the family of the children in the photograph that lost their father on the battlefield of Gettysburg.

Each newspaper article should contain the following items:

- **Headline:** an attention grabbing phrase at the top of the article
- **Lead Paragraph:** Start with a strong, interesting sentence to get the reader engaged. Include all of the necessary details such as who, what, when, where, why and how. Students may research the Battle of Gettysburg and include this information in the lead paragraph.
- **Background and the explanation:** describe the details in the photograph and the purpose of the article which is to locate the family of the soldier.

Adjustments

- Have the students write only the headline for the article.
- Have the students create an advertisement to help locate the soldier's family.