

Jackson DVD – Young Life

The Revolution: Confrontation with the British Officer:

- The British captured Jackson and his brother during the American Revolution – prisoners of war
- Jackson refused an order by a British officer to clean his boots. The officer slashed Jackson with a sword.

Release from British Prison:

- As prisoners, Jackson and his brother caught small pox
- After their mother pleaded, the British released the brothers. They walked 40 miles home.
- Jackson gave up his horse for his brother, walked - Jackson's brother died. His mother died 6 months later
- At 16, Jackson was a poor orphan

Lawyer in Salisbury, North Carolina

- Jackson was a wild young man He gambled, drank, and got into trouble
- Despite his poverty and youth, Jackson educated himself and studied law
- He became a successful lawyer
- Left Carolina and moved to Tennessee

Move to Tennessee

- Jackson became a successful lawyer
- He owned a plantation, became a breeder of horses, slave owner
- He became a military officer and general
- Became a war hero and Indian fighter
- Jackson entered politics: House and Senate member in the Tennessee government

Jackson DVD - Military

The War of 1812

Old Hickory

- Jackson was a major-general in the Tennessee Militia
- Army asked Jackson to march to New Orleans in Jan, 1813
- Marched for 3 months to Mississippi - Army told Jackson to turn around and go home – not needed in New Orleans
- Army did not pay for Jackson's men to return to Tenn.
- Jackson led his sick, injured men home to Tenn. using his own money
- Jackson was 46 and ill, but he gave up his horse to other men
- Soldiers nicknamed Jackson Old Hickory during this march because he was as tough as hickory – a very strong wood/tree

Red Stick Wars

- A part of the Creek Indians
- Creek Indians in a Civil War between those who want to fight white settlement and those who want to adopt white ways
- Red Sticks attacked white settlement – Fort Mims
 - Slaughter the settlers in Fort – including Indians
- Jackson and Tenn. Militia sent to attack the Red Sticks after Fort Mims
 - In one battle Jackson's militia killed 400 to 500 Indians
 - After the battle, Jackson adopted an Indian boy
 - Some question Jackson's motives – did he just want to look good to Indians by adopting the boy?

- Battle of Horseshoe Bend
 - Jackson's militia defeated the Red Sticks – 800 Indians killed (Jackson's soldiers counted by cutting off their noses to avoid counting the dead twice); only 6 militia killed
 - Battle disaster for Red Sticks – led to Treaty of Fort Jackson
 - Treaty unfair to Indians – took ½ the Creek territory
 - Creek territory will be settled by white Americans moving west
- Battle of New Orleans
 - Jackson won a lopsided victory against the British at the end of the War of 1812
 - 2,000 British casualties vs. 24ish American casualties
 - Americans believe because Jackson beat the British at New Orleans he won the War of 1812
 - Became known as “The Hero” and the “Second George Washington”
 - Americans believe Jackson saved American independence from the British

Jackson DVD: President

Jackson as President: South Carolina and States' Rights

- South Carolina threatened to secede from the USA over a tariff
- Jackson threatened South Carolina with the military if it attempted to leave the USA.
- Jackson was determined to keep the USA together.

Jackson battles the Bank and pays off the National Debt

- Jackson thought the Bank of the United States was corrupt and unconstitutional.
- He believed the bank had too much power over the value of money in the USA
- Believed the bank was using money to advance its own interests
 - Gave money to congressman for re-election campaigns
 - Refused to loan money to farmers and small business owners (common people) to get back at Jackson
- Supreme Court ruled bank was constitutional
- Congress voted to renew the bank's charter
 - Jackson vetoed the bank
 - Wanted to defend the interests of the common person
 - Jackson removed all the money, gold, and silver deposits from the national bank to destroy it – considered it a victory for the people
- Jackson paid off the national debt by selling federal lands – proudest moment as president

Indian Removal Act and the Trail of Tears

- Jackson thought to represent the common person he needed to open land up for white settlers.
- Also, believed whites and Indians could not live peacefully near each other.
 - This led to his belief in Indian Removal
 - In 1830 Jackson signed the Indian Removal Act – allowed US government to move Indians to the west
 - Nullified all earlier treaties with Indians
 - From 1830 to 1840 – 80,000 to 90,000 Indians were forced west
 - Up to 14,000 died on Trail of Tears
- Supreme Court ruled Indian Removal was unconstitutional, Jackson defied Court
Indians called Jackson “Great Devil” and “Black Heart”