



**Created by:** Kacy Leiner

**Grade level:** 5

**Primary source citation:** Thaddeus Lowe's Balloon Ascent. Smithsonian Archives Collection.

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the attached photograph while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

### **Level 1: Description**

- 1 Tell what you think could be going on in this photograph. Explain what led you to your ideas.
- 2 Identify three things that lead you to pin pointing a time period or event for this photograph.
- 3 Write a journal entry as if you were the man inside the basket. What might be going through his mind? Be sure to use first person.

### **Level 2: Interpretation**

- 1 Look at the photograph. Discuss with your table if you'd expect to see this practice with the Union or Confederate army. What background led you to come to your conclusion?
- 2 How might the events in this photograph have a lasting effect on your life today?
- 3 Come to a conclusion as to what this picture is showing you.

### **Level 3: Analysis**

(A discuss will be held to explain to the students that this is a photograph showing the first attempt for the union to use Aerial Reconnaissance during the Civil War. This will occur before the Analysis section begins.)

- 1 Relate this example to the modern day examples that you discovered through Starbase. How are the ideas the same? Different?

- 2 Research the practice of using this type of Aerial Reconnaissance. How long did this practice last? Was it successful for the Union? Did it create any setbacks?
- 3 Examine the picture closely. What can you discover located in this photograph that will better help you understand the time period of the Civil War?

