

This lesson will help students understand how maps and first-hand accounts can help us understand a battle.

Begin by having students examine the modern-day Google Earth view of the battlefield. What natural and man-made features do they see on the map? (Slide 1 on the PowerPoint presentation)

Go over the vocabulary word on Slide 2 of the PowerPoint presentation. This will help students understand the narratives they read and the Durnford Map.

Look at the Durnford Map together (Slide 3). Talk about the ways in which the map is similar to maps with which the students are more familiar. In what ways is it different?

Distribute the narratives and copies of the Durnford Map, as well as the questions. Have students work in groups or pairs to answer the questions. Review answers as a whole class as each of the three sections is completed.

Invite each group to share what it thinks was the most decisive geographic feature.