

Abraham Lincoln

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Abraham Lincoln

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Abraham Lincoln

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STRUCTURED GUIDED READING

BUILDING BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Abraham Lincoln



BUILDING BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Civil War

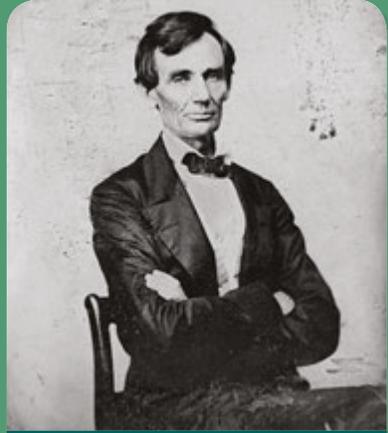


VOCABULARY



operate

He operated a small store.



successful

Lincoln worked hard to be a successful lawyer.



court

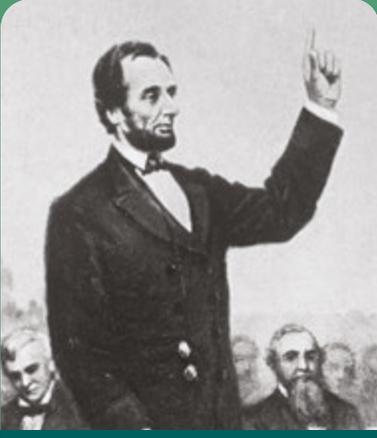
He worked on many cases. He also spent a lot of time in court.



respect

The lawyers that he worked with respected him.

VOCABULARY



declare

Since he had these views, he declared all slaves free in 1863.



aggressive

He was an aggressive general who won many battles.



general

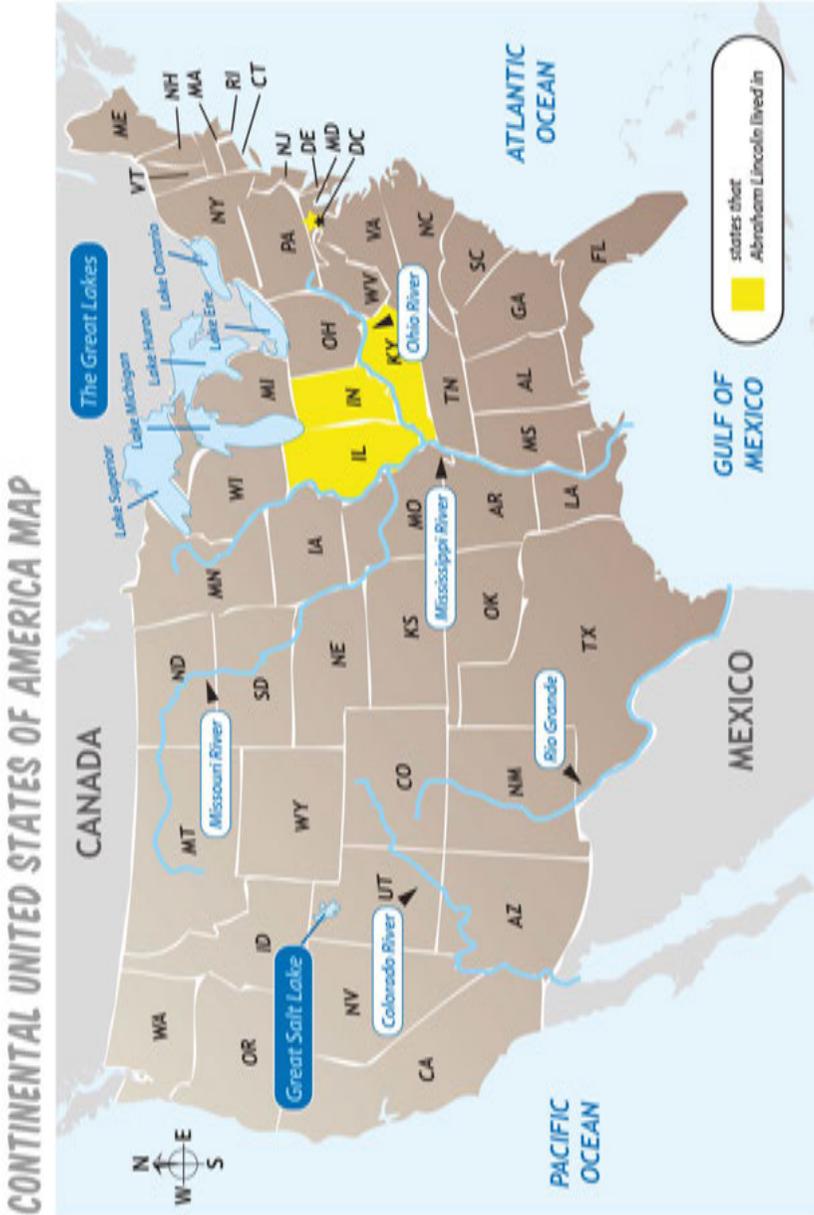
He was an aggressive general who won many battles.

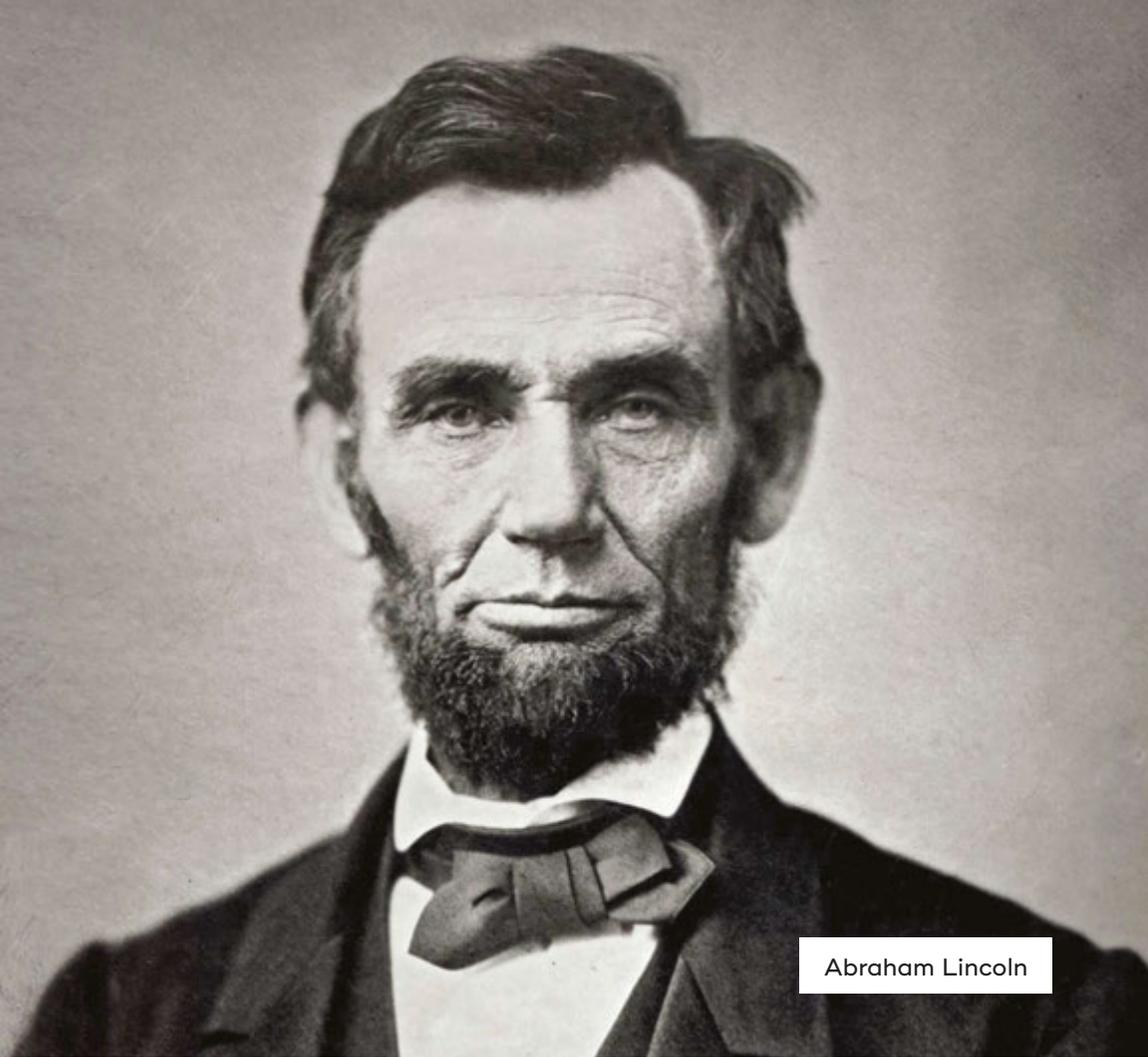


surrender

The South's general surrendered on April 9, 1865. The North won the war.

MAPS AND STUFF





Abraham Lincoln

Introduction

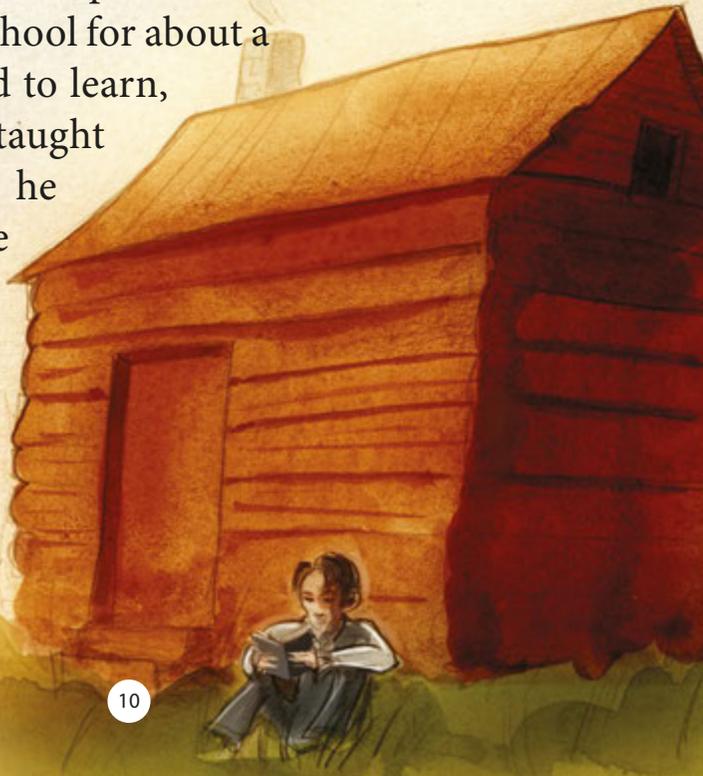
- ¹ How many people would vote for a president who was born in a log cabin? How about one who spent just a year in school?
- ² Our country **elected** a man like this. His name was Abraham Lincoln. He was president 150 years ago. People still **admire** him today.

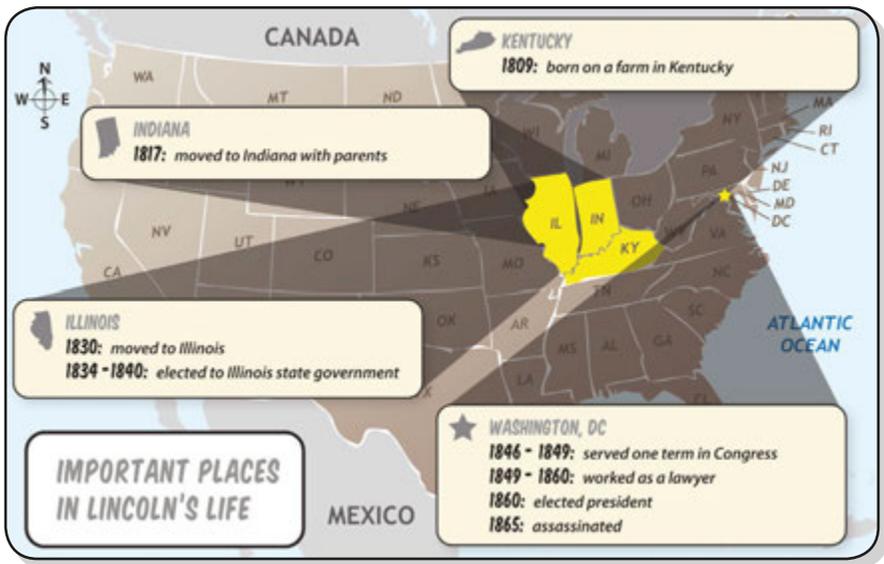
The Early Years

3 Lincoln was born in 1809 on a farm in Kentucky. He had a rough life. He despised working on the farm. This is how he described his family and his childhood:

4 *“My mother ... died in my tenth year. ... My father ... removed from Kentucky to ... Indiana, in my eighth year. ... It was a wild region, with many bears and other wild animals still in the woods. There I grew up. ... Of course when I came of age I did not know much. Still somehow, I could read, write ... but that was all.”*

5 Getting an education was not easy because Lincoln lived on the frontier. It was a wilderness area. There were few schools. His parents were not educated. He only went to school for about a year. Lincoln liked to learn, so he mostly taught himself. Because he liked to learn, he read every book that he could find. This was a reason why he borrowed books from neighbors.





An Honest Leader

- 6 At age 21, Lincoln moved to Illinois. He operated a small store. The people there loved him. He was fair and never cheated people, so they called him “Honest Abe.”

- 7 Lincoln was a great public speaker, and people thought that he could be a good leader. He was elected to the Illinois state government in 1834. Now, he was a lawmaker. Every two years, he ran for re-election. He was re-elected three times, and the last time was in 1840.

- 8 In 1846, he ran for Congress and won. The next year, he went to Washington, D.C., to serve in Congress. He promised to serve just one **term** of two years. When his term ended in 1849, he decided to work as a lawyer.

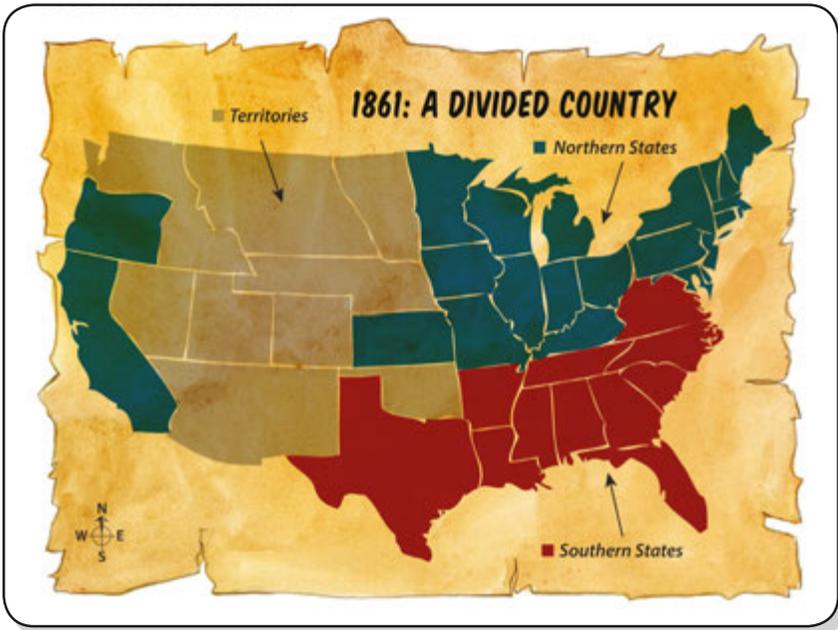
Life as a Lawyer

- 9 Lincoln worked hard to be a successful lawyer. He never even studied at a law school. He read so many law books that he became a lawyer on his own.
- 10 He worked on many cases. He also spent much of time in court. The lawyers that he worked with respected him. They also called him “Honest Abe” because he never told a lie.

Fun Fact

Lincoln started wearing a beard after an 11-year-old girl wrote him. She asked him to let his “whiskers” grow.





Tough Times as President

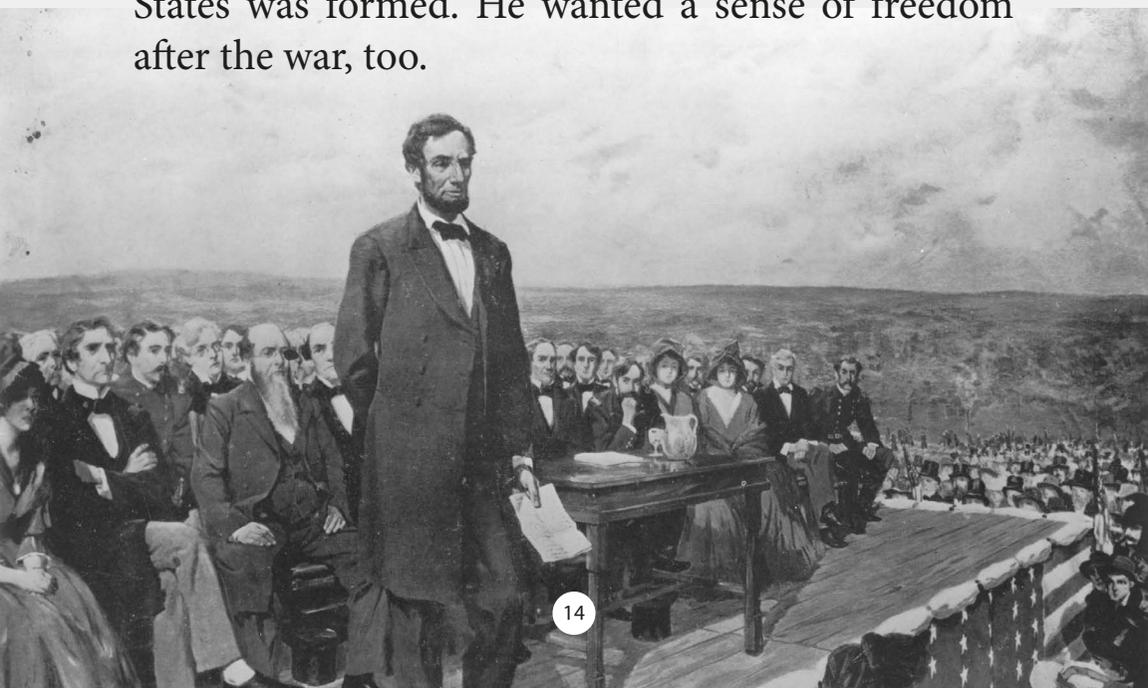
- ¹¹ Lincoln ran for president in 1860 and won. However, some people did not like “Honest Abe.” Slavery was a big issue. Some farmers used slaves to pick crops. States in the South allowed this. Lincoln got his support from states in the North. Those states did not allow slavery.
- ¹² Once he was elected, Southern states took a big risk. They split from the United States. These states formed their own country. Lincoln faced a huge crisis as he became president. He feared that slavery would spread. He could not let this happen. Things got so bad that the Civil War broke out in 1861. The North and South fought each other. This was the worst possible way to start his term.

The Gettysburg Address

13 Both sides lost many men in the war. The most famous battle was at Gettysburg in 1863. It was a big win for the North. Later, a cemetery was set up for those who died there. Lincoln gave a speech:

14 *“Four score and seven years ago
our fathers brought forth, upon this
continent, a new nation, conceived in
liberty, and dedicated to the proposition
that all men are created equal.”*

15 His famous speech is the Gettysburg **Address**. He said that people wanted freedom when the United States was formed. He wanted a sense of freedom after the war, too.





Ulysses S. Grant

Wartime Views

- 16 Lincoln fought for freedom. However, he wanted the war to end soon. He wanted the country to heal and move on.
- 17 His wartime actions were an effect of these views. Since he had these views, he declared all slaves free in 1863. Lincoln's views were a reason why he put a new man in charge of his armies in 1864. His name was Ulysses S. Grant. He was an aggressive general who won many battles.
- 18 Lincoln also welcomed the South back because of his views. Lincoln wanted the country to heal. He had ideas to help each state rebuild. The South's general surrendered on April 9, 1865. The North won the war.

Final Days

- 19 Sadly, Lincoln never saw the South rebuild. Many people disliked his views. After the war, some were still mad.
- 20 On April 14, 1865, Lincoln and his wife went to Ford's Theatre in Washington. It was five days after the South's surrender. They saw a play called "Our American Cousin." They sat in the balcony, above the stage. A man named John Wilkes Booth went to the balcony and shot Lincoln. He was an actor. He had even performed once in front of Lincoln at the theater. Booth **backed** the South in the war.
- 21 Lincoln was rushed to a house nearby. He died the next day.



Interior of Ford's Theatre

Photo: Wknight94

IN THIS TEMPLE
AS IN THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE
FOR WHOM HE SAVED THE UNION
THE MEMORY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN
IS ENSHRINED FOREVER

The Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C.



Conclusion

22 Lincoln is one of our most famous presidents. The country was at war for most of his time in office. He tried to keep the country together.

Fun Fact

Lincoln's face is on the penny and the \$5 bill.

23 Long after his death, we still admire "Honest Abe." His birthday in February is a holiday. Even a state slogan bears his name. Illinois is known as the Land of Lincoln.

GLOSSARY

address – a speech given to other people

admire – to look up to, to idolize

back – to support, to side with someone

elect – to vote someone into office

score – a period of 20 years (four score = 80 years)

term – the time that someone is in office

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Photos: pages 4, 9, 15 (via Wikimedia Commons), page 17 (istockphoto.com).

HIGH FREQUENCY WORDS

Group 32

#776-800

776

caught

789

maybe

777

fell

790

business

778

team

791

separate

779

God

792

break

780

captain

793

uncle

781

direct

794

hunting

782

ring

795

flow

783

serve

796

lady

784

child

797

students

785

desert

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human

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increase

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