

Happy Birthday, Abe Lincoln!



A **SOAR** Activity

Stimulating **O**pportunities **A**cademic **R**igor

A SOAR Unit engages students by captivating their attention with stimulating activities that include multiple academic disciplines. Student progress will **SOAR!**

Included in this activity are:

- Informational article about Abraham Lincoln
- Test Your Thinking Skills Questions that mimic end of year state tests questions
- Test Your Thinking Answer Key
- Stimulating Opportunity: Read aloud a picture book and have kids make a log cabin out of sticks or pretzels

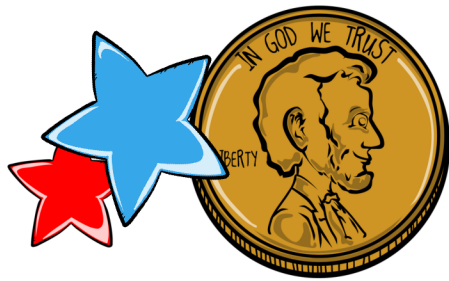
Abraham Lincoln



I have always loved reading about Abraham Lincoln. It all started in the third grade when I had to do a report on a famous person. I chose to read and write about our 16th president Abraham Lincoln. In the many years that followed I have read countless books on President Lincoln. I decided to write about him once again because he was an overcomer. He had many obstacles and tragedies in his life but he persevered through them. Also, he valued education and he loved to read. President Lincoln should be an inspiration to us all.

Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809. His parents lived in a very small and simple log cabin in the state of Kentucky. His father was a farmer and the family owned very little. Neither his father nor his mother was educated, although both could write their name. Lincoln's life is both impressive and noteworthy. He started life with simple beginnings. He was a shopkeeper who rose to hold the highest office in our nation, that of President of the United States. He governed the country through a civil war, a time so divided that we were fighting against our own neighbors and fellow citizens. Lincoln stood up for the rights of all people to be free. He signed the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed the slaves. Many people may not realize that Abraham Lincoln is the president that officially made Thanksgiving a national holiday.

Abraham Lincoln was a great man who accomplished many things. He persevered through difficult times and always fought for what he believed in. As you continue to learn and apply what you have already know keep in mind what Abraham Lincoln said about learning and life. Read the following quotes.



“My best friend is a person who will give me a book I have not read.”

“Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe.”

“I do the very best I know how- the very best I can; and I mean to keep doing so until the end.”

“I will prepare and someday my chance will come”

“The best way to predict your future is to create it”

“Be sure you put your feet in the right place, and then stand firm”

Challenge: Learn more about Abraham Lincoln by reading one of the many books written about him.

Name: _____

Test Your Thinking Skills

1. Reread the first paragraph and write an opinion that the author gives. How do you know it is an opinion?

2. Which of the following is NOT true about Abraham Lincoln?

- A. He was born in Kentucky
- B. He was once a shopkeeper
- C. He signed the Emancipation Proclamation
- D. He was the 18th president of the United States

3. Read the sentence below from the passage.

Lincoln's life is both impressive and noteworthy.

What does the word noteworthy mean in this sentence?

- A. Abraham Lincoln was a writer
- B. Someone we should take notice of
- C. Abraham Lincoln was very popular
- D. Abraham Lincoln loved to write people notes

4. Write 3 things you learned from the article about Abraham Lincoln. Please use complete sentences.

Name: _____

Test Your Thinking Skills Answer Key

1. Reread the first paragraph and write an opinion that the author gives. How do you know it is an opinion?

Answers may vary. This is an example:

President Lincoln should be an inspiration to us all, is the authors opinion. I know it is an opinion because you cannot prove it and you can't make everyone (to us all) think what you think.

2. Which of the following is NOT true about Abraham Lincoln?

- A. He was born in Kentucky
- B. He was once a shopkeeper
- C. He signed the Emancipation Proclamation
- D. He was the 18th president of the United States

3. Read the sentence below from the passage.

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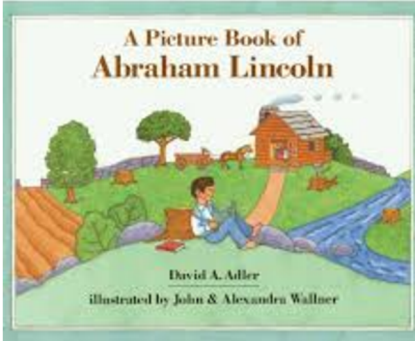
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4. Write 3 things you learned from the article about Abraham Lincoln. Please use complete sentences.

Answers will vary.

A Picture Book of Abraham Lincoln



Read aloud, *A Picture Book of Abraham Lincoln* by David A. Adler and discuss. Or, show the read aloud on youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjkV8RtGepO>.

Abraham Lincoln's Log Cabin

Directions: Build a mini model of Abraham Lincoln's boyhood log cabin. Use real sticks, pretzel sticks, or craft sticks to build. Remember to include a chimney, a spot for the door, and a window! Use hot glue (with an adult), or small marshmallows or frosting to put the sticks together. Have fun!



Thank You

Thank you so much for downloading our resource!
We hope that you and your students get excited
about learning and SOAR!

-Erica Abel (Whimsical Writers)

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Check out...

The cover of a SOAR unit titled 'UNITED STATES PRESIDENTS PART I'. It features a blue background with a red banner at the top. A cartoon illustration of George Washington is on the left. The text includes 'Stimulating Opportunities Academic Rigor' and 'A SOAR Unit engages students by captivating their attention with stimulating activities that include multiple academic disciplines. Student progress will SOAR!'. There are also images of lesson pages and the Presidential Seal.

The cover of a SOAR unit titled 'Feed the Birds'. It has a green border and a white background. A red cardinal is perched on a branch. The text includes 'Stimulating Opportunities Academic Rigor' and 'A SOAR Unit engages students by captivating their attention with stimulating activities that include multiple academic disciplines. Student progress will SOAR!'. It also mentions 'Perfect unit for National Bird Feeding Month in February, or anytime of the year!' and shows a table of contents.

The cover of a SOAR activity titled 'MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY'. It features a portrait of Martin Luther King Jr. on the right. The text includes 'Stimulating Opportunities Academic Rigor' and 'A SOAR Unit engages students by captivating their attention with stimulating activities that include multiple academic disciplines. Student progress will SOAR!'. It lists included materials: 'Informational article about Martin Luther King Jr. with photographs', 'Test Your Thinking Skills Questions that mimic end of year state tests questions', 'Test Your Thinking Answer Key', and 'Stimulating Opportunity: Students watch the "I Have a Dream" speech (youtube) and write their own speech'.

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