

Fun Facts

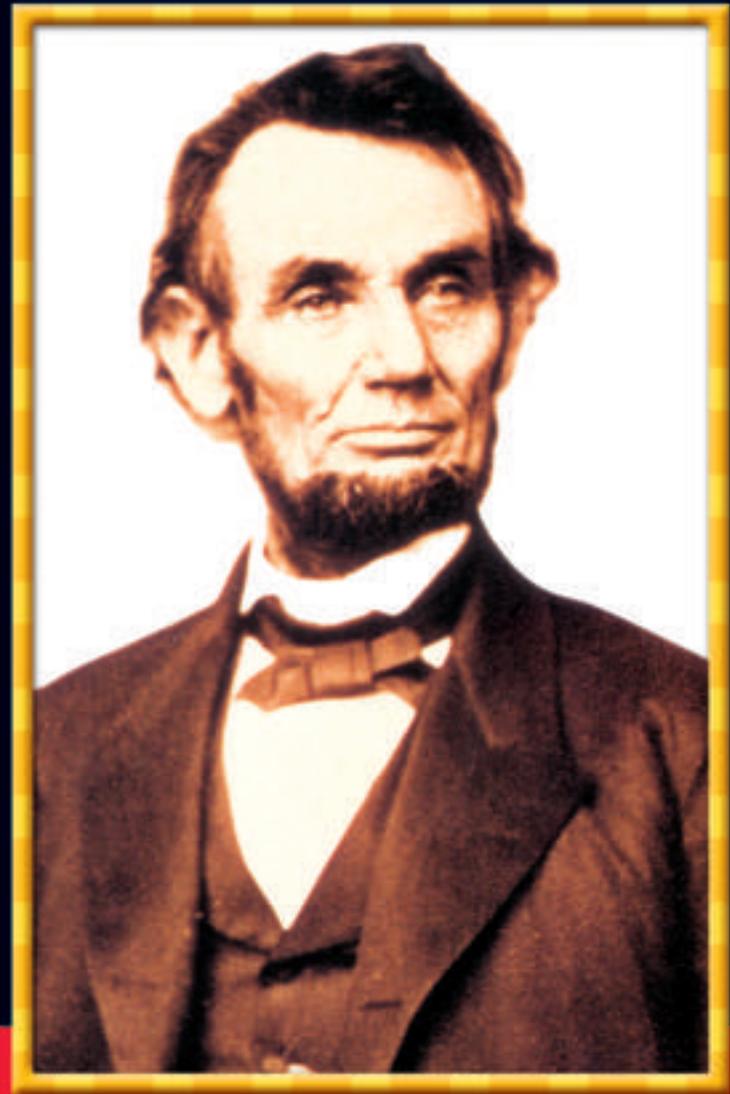
- At six feet four inches tall, Abraham Lincoln was the tallest President.
- Abraham Lincoln's wife, Mary Todd, was from Kentucky.
- People did not think Lincoln was a handsome man. When a little girl named Grace Bedell wrote him a letter saying he should grow a beard, he did!

Genre	Comprehension Skill	Text Features
Nonfiction	Sequence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glossary • Captions • Illustrations

Scott Foresman Social Studies

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Our 16th President



by Barbara L. Luciano



Abraham Lincoln helped make important changes to our country. He was the sixteenth President of the United States. In this book you will learn about some of the things he did.



Vocabulary

- shelter
- independence
- enslaved
- tradition

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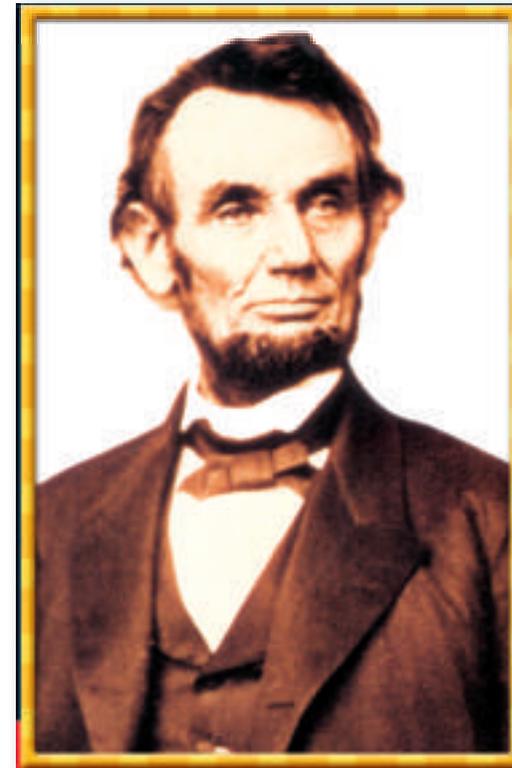
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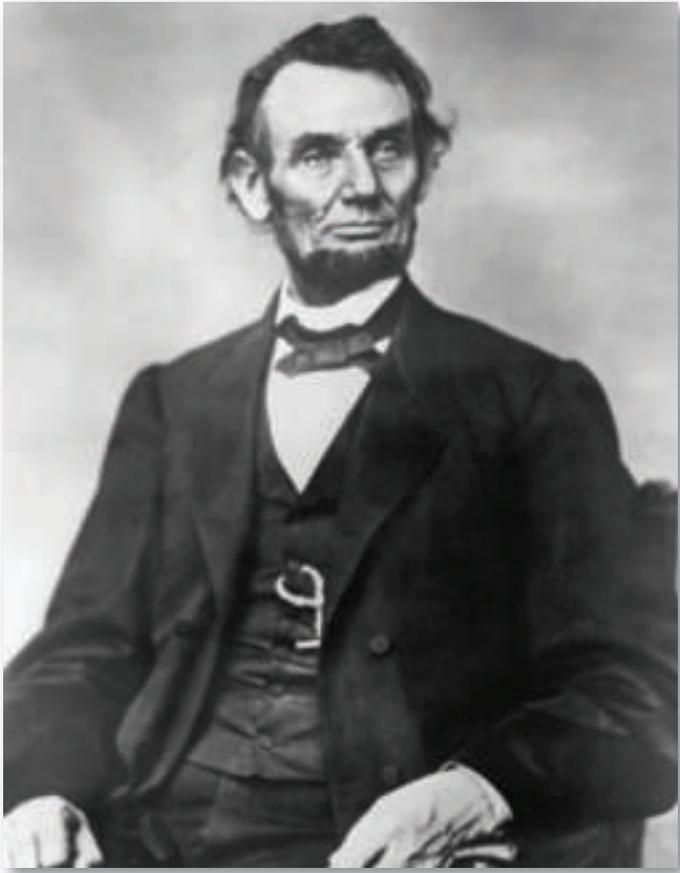


by Barbara L. Luciano



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 Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809. He was born in Kentucky. Abraham Lincoln was named after his grandfather.

Lincoln grew up to become the sixteenth President of the United States of America. He made our country a better place to live.



 Lincoln lived in a log cabin when he was young.

 When Abraham Lincoln was young, his family moved from Kentucky to Indiana. Very few people lived there then, except for American Indians and a few pioneers.

Lincoln and his family did not have much money. They had to work hard for their food and **shelter**. Lincoln never went to college, but he loved to read.





Lincoln split logs into long pieces called rails.



In November of 1842 Lincoln married Mary Todd. They lived in Springfield, Illinois.

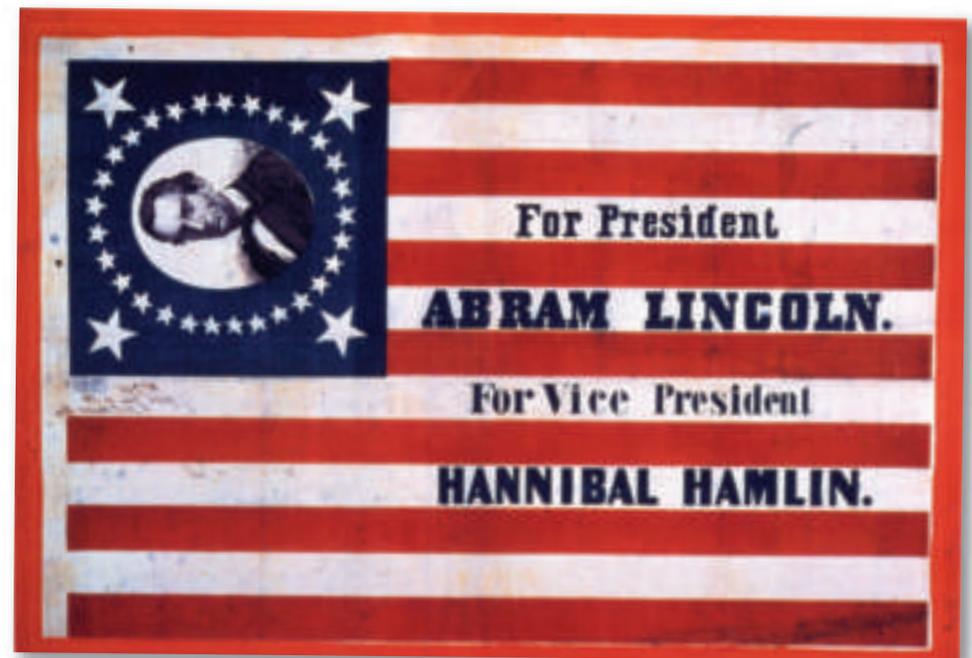
Abraham and Mary Lincoln had four sons. Their sons' names were Robert Todd, Edward, William, and Thomas.



Lincoln worked hard and had many different jobs. He split logs to earn money. He worked as a boat captain. He also worked in a store. Later he became a lawyer.

One very important job that Lincoln had was Congressman. This meant he spoke for the people of Illinois. People were happy with his work. They asked Lincoln to run for President.

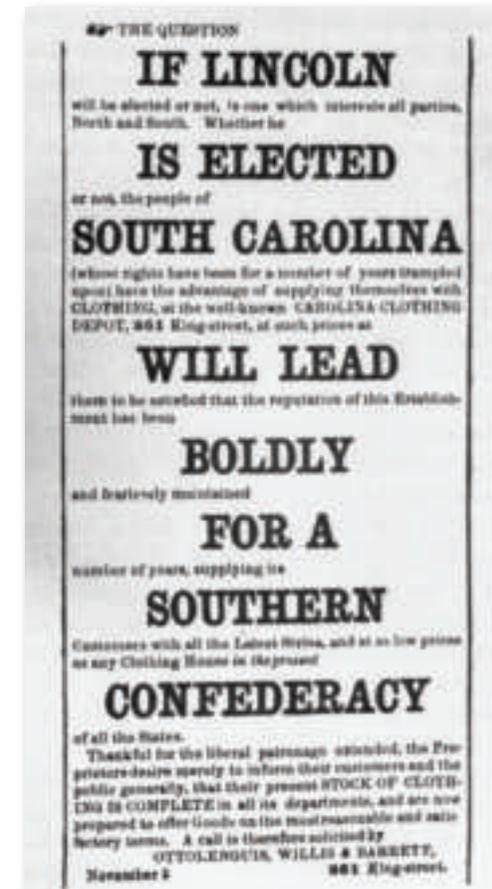
Political poster from the 1860 election





Abraham Lincoln was used to speaking to large crowds.

In 1860 people rode trains or traveled by horse and carriage. Anyone who wanted to be elected had to travel this way to meet people. There were no televisions or computers back then to help share ideas!



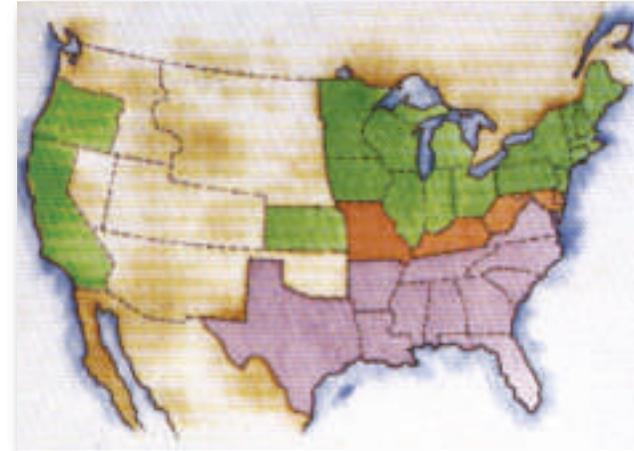
Many people in the South did not want Lincoln elected.

When Lincoln ran for President, some people were afraid of the changes Lincoln would make. Lincoln won the election.



Lincoln became President on March 4, 1861. In 1864 he was elected again. Lincoln won this election with many more votes than the first election.

Lincoln became President on March 4, 1861.



The states that wanted to be independent are shown in purple. The orange states allowed slavery but wanted to remain part of the United States. The green states are where slavery had been outlawed.

When Lincoln was elected President, there were many problems to be fixed. One big problem was that not all states agreed about how the country should be run.

Eleven states from the South wanted their **independence** from the other states. They decided to make their own government. They elected their own President.





These people escaped slavery and came to the North.

One of the things that the states could not agree on was slavery. Abraham Lincoln thought it was wrong for people to be **enslaved**. Many people agreed with him. Other people felt that they needed enslaved people to help do work.



This document gave enslaved people their freedom.

The northern and the southern states fought a war while Lincoln was President. This war was called the Civil War. It began on April 12, 1861. On January 1, 1863, Lincoln signed a paper that said enslaved people in the South were free.





Ulysses S. Grant led the northern army. Robert E. Lee led the southern army. Each side believed their ideas were right. They fought hard for these ideas.

The war finally ended on April 9, 1865. The North had won.



Lincoln's most famous speech was given at Gettysburg. This was the place where one of the war's worst battles was fought.



The Civil War was fought for many reasons. People had different ideas about how things should be. Lincoln worked hard to bring the states back together. He wanted the war to end. He wanted Americans to stop fighting one another. He wanted the states to be united once again.





John Wilkes Booth shot Lincoln as the President watched a play.

One night in 1865 Abraham Lincoln was in Washington, D.C., at Ford's Theater. He was watching a play. A man named John Wilkes Booth shot Lincoln. Lincoln died a short time later.



There is a special place in Washington, D.C., called the Lincoln Memorial. Many people go there to remember all the good work that Lincoln did. His ideas changed our country in many ways.

It has become a **tradition** to remember Lincoln and other Presidents on Presidents' Day. It is a chance for us to think about the important part they played in our country's history.



Thousands of people went to President Lincoln's funeral.



Glossary

enslaved made to live as slaves, or owned as property

independence to be free from other people or places

shelter a place where people live

tradition something that is done a certain way for many years

Write to It!

Would you like to be the President some day? Why or why not? Write about what you would do if you were President. Tell about what you would change.

Write your paragraph on another sheet of paper.

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