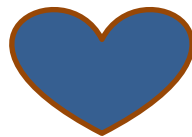


Underground Railroad Activity

COMPILED BY JULIE ARTH

www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Julie-Arth



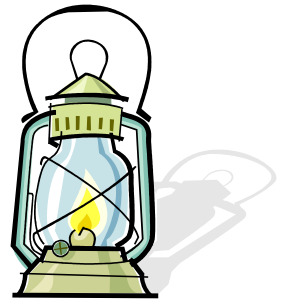
NOTE TO THE TEACHER:

This activity is part of the Civil War Unit I teach in the 5th grade. The worksheet was designed to be a shortened companion to the online Scholastic activity "The Underground Railroad, Escape from Slavery" found at:

http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/bhistory/underground_railroad/

(Note: My class worksheet includes the I Keep Bookmarks <http://www.ikeepbookmarks.com/> path for my students to use rather than the URL; I included the URL for your students.)

Before my students log on to the Scholastic activity, I use my **Underground Railroad** Myth/Fact Power Point as an anticipatory set. (Find this PP in my store!) The last slide includes a link to the Scholastic activity so that you can demonstrate the activity on a Smart Board, if available. This activity provides a balanced picture of the realities of the Underground Railroad, and my students enjoy the freedom of learning from an interactive computer experience. The worksheet provides a record of their effort and learning. 😊



Happy Teaching!

Julie

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Name: _____

The Underground Railroad

escape from slavery

Directions: Open the Scholastic Interactive Program:

http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/bhistory/underground_railroad/

Explore all activities and answer the following questions:

On the Plantation: Life as a Slave

Explore all of the resources in “On the Plantation: Life as a Slave”. Listen to the story of the runaway slave, click around on the scene and listen to the audio slideshow. Read the story “Growing Up in Slavery”. After you have explored all of the resources, answer the question.

1. Describe the life of a slave on a Southern plantation. Where did slaves live? What kinds of work did they do?

Escape! The Underground Railroad

Explore all of the resources: listen to the story, click around in the scene, check out the audio slideshow, and try to write “The Secret Letter”. After you have explored the resources, answer these questions.

2. What was the Underground Railroad? Who were the “passengers” and the “conductors”?

3. What were some of the dangers and challenges that runaway slaves faced?

Reaching Safety: Heroes for the Cause

Explore all of the resources: listen to the story, click around in the scene, and check out the audio slideshow. After you have explored all of the resources, answer these questions.

4. Who were the abolitionists? How did they spread their message?

5. Did all abolitionists support the Underground Railroad? Why or why not?

Almost Free: Life in the North

Explore all of the resources: listen to the story, click around in the scene, and check out the audio slideshow and the maps in “Compare Two Worlds: The North vs. the South”. After you have explored all of the resources, answer these questions.

6. What are some of the places that slaves settled in the North? Why did many go to Canada?

7. What were some of the challenges the newcomers faced as they started their new lives?

8. What was the Emancipation Proclamation? What impact did it have?

Name: KEY

The Underground Railroad

escape from slavery

Directions: Open the Scholastic Interactive Program:

http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/bhistory/underground_railroad/

Explore all activities and answer the following questions:

✖ On the Plantation: Life as a Slave

Explore all of the resources in “On the Plantation: Life as a Slave”. Listen to the story of the runaway slave, click around on the scene and listen to the audio slideshow. Read the story “Growing Up in Slavery”. After you have explored all of the resources, answer the question.

1. Describe the life of a slave on a Southern plantation. Where did slaves live? What kinds of work did they do?

Slaves had a hard life. They worked from sun-up to sun-down in the fields or in the plantation house taking care of the family. Their own cabin was one or two rooms and had a dirt floor, hay for a bed and no privacy.

✖ Escape! The Underground Railroad

Explore all of the resources: listen to the story, click around in the scene, check out the audio slideshow, and try to write “The Secret Letter”. After you have explored the resources, answer these questions.

2. What was the Underground Railroad? Who were the “passengers” and the “conductors”?

The Underground Railroad was a secret network of people and routes that led to freedom. Passengers were the escaping slaves, and conductors were the people who led them to freedom.

3. What were some of the dangers and challenges that runaway slaves faced?

Dangers included evading the bounty hunters who were trying to capture the slaves to return them to their owner. They would be severely punished if caught. Along the way they had little to eat, had to walk most of the way, hide, and be quiet.

✖ Reaching Safety: Heroes for the Cause

Explore all of the resources: listen to the story, click around in the scene, and check out the audio slideshow. After you have explored all of the resources, answer these questions.

4. Who were the abolitionists? How did they spread their message?

Abolitionists were people who worked to end slavery. They spread the message by writing books, pamphlets, newspaper articles and giving speeches. Abolitionists formed societies, signed petitions, and boycotted goods made with slave labor.

5. Did all abolitionists support the Underground Railroad? Why or why not?

Not all abolitionists supported the Underground Railroad because it was against the law to help runaway slaves. It was dangerous and if caught, the penalty could be very severe.

✖ Almost Free: Life in the North

Explore all of the resources: listen to the story, click around in the scene, and check out the audio slideshow and the maps in “Compare Two Worlds: The North vs. the South”. After you have explored all of the resources, answer these questions.

6. What are some of the places that slaves settled in the North? Why did many go to Canada?

Ex-slaves settled in communities of free blacks in both rural areas and big cities such as Boston, Philadelphia, and New York. Many went to Canada because there they could be truly free; no slave catchers were allowed, and everyone was equal.

7. What were some of the challenges the newcomers faced as they started their new lives?

Challenges included just starting a new life and missing family who did not escape. It was hard to get work and ex-slaves faced discrimination at work, school, and even church.

8. What was the Emancipation Proclamation? What impact did it have?

The Emancipation Proclamation was a document that abolished slavery. The impact was that slaves became free and were given full rights as US citizens.

THANK YOU!

I HOPE YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS
ENJOY THIS ACTIVITY!
HAPPY TEACHING!
JULIE ARTH

PLEASE VISIT ME AT MY STORE:

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Julie-Arth>

