

Stand Tall, Abe Lincoln

By Judith St. George

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Summary from Philomel Books: “Growing up poor in the backwoods of Kentucky and Indiana, Abraham Lincoln lost his mother before he was ten. But Sally Johnson, who married Abe’s father a year later, brought a library of books to their log cabin home and turned young Abe’s life around. She believed in Abe from the beginning and provided him with the opportunity to grow, learn, and stand tall.”

Book Information:

Time Period: 1809-1821

Genre: Biography: Abraham Lincoln

Setting Location: Hardin County, Kentucky and Little Pigeon Creek, Indiana

Booktalk:

Author Information

www.judithstgeorge.com

This website includes an author biography, and a bibliography of her work.

Illustrator Information

<http://www.mattfaulkner.com/books.html>

Chapter 1 Abe in the Backwoods

Questions:

1. Why did young Abe have chores? Why were the chores important?
2. Do you think it would be cruel to eat Abe's pig? Would you eat it?
3. Several important events happened to Abraham when he was young: he saw slavery, his baby brother died, he learned of the harsh realities of food for survival. Which event do you think was the most important in his future?

Chapter 2 Abe in School

Questions:

1. Would you like to go to school at Knob Creek? Explain.
2. Who was Abe's teacher?
3. Who saved Abe from drowning?
4. What do you think will happen once Abe moves?

Chapter 3 Abe in Little Pigeon

Questions:

1. What did Abe's mother do before they moved?
2. How would you feel if you had to move the way Abe and his family did?
3. How did Nancy Lincoln die?

Chapter 4 Abe in Pinching Times

Questions:

1. What pets did the Lincoln family buy Sarah?
2. Why did Abe's father leave their house?

Chapter 5 Abe Up in the Air

Questions:

1. How many children did Abe's stepmother have?
2. Do you think Abe will like having three more siblings?
3. What is the name of Abraham's stepmother?
4. Do you think Abe will grow to love Sally?

Chapter 6 Abe and Sally in the "Same Channel"

Questions:

1. Where was Abe's new school?
2. Do you think Sally knew that Abe was destined to be something great?
3. What great things did Abraham Lincoln do with his future?

Vocabulary

p. 4 Squawl – cry

p. 6 Peddler - a person who sells from door to door or in the street

p. 13 Fettle - a chain or shackle placed on the feet

p. 13 Dunderhead - a dunce; blockhead; numbskull

p. 18 Ferry - a commercial service with terminals and boats for transporting persons, automobiles, etc., across a river or other comparatively small body of water

p. 27 Ragamuffin - a ragged, disreputable person; tatterdemalion

p. 34 Lingered - to remain or stay on in a place longer than is usual or expected, as if from reluctance to leave

p. 36 Ignoramus - an extremely ignorant person

p. 38 Quarrel - an angry dispute or altercation; a disagreement marked by a temporary or permanent break in friendly relations

Other Works by Judith St. George:

Dear Dr. Bell...Your Friend, Helen Keller - 1992

Betsy Ross: Patriot of Philadelphia - 1997

Sacagawea - 1997

So You Want to be President? - 2000

John and Abigail Adams: An American Love Story - 2001

So You Want to be an Inventor? - 2002

You're on Your Way, Teddy Roosevelt - 2004

Take the Lead, George Washington - 2005

The Journey of the One and Only Declaration of Independence - 2005

So You Want to be an Explorer? - 2005

Make Your Mark, Franklin Roosevelt - 2007

The Ghost, The White House and Me - 2007

Zarafa - 2009

The Duel - 2009

Related Titles:

Harness, Cheryl. Abe Lincoln Goes to Washington: 1837-1865.

Harness, Cheryl. Young Abe Lincoln: The Frontier Days, 1809-1837.

Hopkinson, Deborah. Abe Lincoln Crosses a Creek: A Tall, Thin Tale

Rappaport, Doreen. Abe's Honest Words: The Life of Abraham Lincoln.

Winters, Kay. Abe Lincoln: The Boy Who Loved Books.

See a listing of Abraham Lincoln books at:

<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6526713.html>

Additional Websites:

<http://us.penguinroup.com/static/images/yr/pdf/LincolnOnlineFactSheet.pdf>

<http://www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/presidents-day/abraham-lincoln/>

This website has quick facts about Abraham Lincoln, puzzles, and coloring pages that are fun for children. This website also has “The Story of Abraham Lincoln” and “The Boy’s Life of Abraham Lincoln”. This website is focused around the presidents and their stories and some fun activities for the students.

<http://showcase.netins.net/web/creative/lincoln/education/educate.htm>

This website has a collection of Lincoln’s speeches, quotations, and writings. It also has a library of Congress Documents and an autobiography of Lincoln and other writings about Lincoln. Using some of his quotes would be a good way to start the lesson to acquire student’s interest.

http://homeschooling.about.com/od/freeprintables/ss/lincolnprint_3.htm

This website is where I got my crossword puzzles. It also has many more free printable activities for students. It also has some vocabulary that isn’t mentioned in the book but, it is important to know when studying Lincoln’s life.

<http://suzyred.com/2009-Stand-Tall-Abraham-Lincoln.html>

Related Lincoln websites for the Book. Also, a guide book which you can purchase.

<http://moreofamom.com/2009/01/31/abraham-lincoln-activities/>

Various activities for the book *Stand Tall Abe Lincoln*.

<http://www.ket.org/lincoln/pdf/As%20the%20Twig%20is%20Bent.pdf>

Activities for Lincoln – Grades 3-5.