

Harriet Tubman

Three differentiated reading passages for Harriet Tubman are shown, each with a different reading level and a corresponding illustration.

Level 1 (H/I 400-500): The Underground Railroad didn't have an engine. It didn't even go underground. But it did have a conductor. Her name was Harriet Tubman. She led many slaves to freedom using secret trails, hideouts, and helpers. Harriet was born around 1820. Her parents were slaves. She and her eight siblings were also slaves. Some of her sisters were sold off to farms far away. In time, Harriet's father was set free. But he couldn't find a job nearby. He didn't want to move away from his family. So he kept working for his former owners.

Level 2 (J/K 600-700): The Underground Railroad didn't have an engine or cars. It didn't even go underground. But it did have a conductor. Her name was Harriet Tubman. She led many slaves to freedom using secret trails, hideouts, and helpers. Harriet was born around 1820. Her parents were slaves. She and her eight siblings were also slaves. Some of her sisters were sold off to farms far away. In time, Harriet's father was set free. But he couldn't find a job nearby. He didn't want to move away from his family. So he kept working for his former owners.

Level 3 (L/M 800-900): The Underground Railroad didn't have an engine or cars. It didn't even go underground. But it did have a conductor. Her name was Harriet Tubman. She led many slaves to freedom using secret trails, hideouts, and helpers. Harriet was born around 1820. Her parents were slaves. She and her eight siblings were also slaves. Some of her sisters were sold off to farms far away. In time, Harriet's father was set free. But he couldn't find a job nearby. He didn't want to move away from his family. So he kept working for his former owners.

Illustrations:

- A photograph of Harriet Tubman in 1885, wearing a long brown dress and a white headscarf.
- A drawing of Harriet Tubman in the late 1860s, wearing a blue headscarf with pink squares and a purple dress.

Each passage includes a "Name: _____" and "Date: _____" line for student identification.

differentiated passages & activities



Table of Contents

Table of Contents

*This product includes a nonfiction guided reading passage on three differentiated levels. The passages are in the 2nd-5th Grade Common Core Text Complexity Band (the range for 2nd-5th grade is 450-980).

1. Prereading Quotation Prompt
2. Differentiated Harriet Tubman Article
3. Comprehension Questions
4. Key Events Foldable
5. Writing Prompts with Toppers



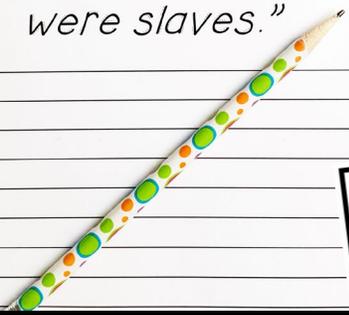
WHAT IS INCLUDED?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Prereading

Read this quote from Harriet Tubman. Write what you believe this quote means. After reading about Tubman's life and discussing this quote with your class, add to your response.

"I freed a thousand slaves. I could have freed a thousand more if only they knew they were slaves."



Passage on 3 Levels

Harriet Tubman

The Underground Railroad didn't have an engine. It didn't even go underground. But it did have a conductor. Her name was Harriet Tubman. She led many slaves to freedom using secret trails, hideouts, and helpers.

Harriet was born around 1820. Her parents were slaves. She and her eight siblings were also slaves. Some of her sisters were sold off to farms far away. In time, Harriet's father was not free. But he couldn't find a job nearby. He didn't want to move away from his family. So he kept working for his former owners.

Harriet in 1885

Harriet in the late 1860s

Life as a slave was very hard. Harriet was rented out to work in homes and fields nearby. She was beaten and even whipped. This left her with injuries that didn't heal. Once, Harriet refused to help catch a runaway slave. The angry slave owner hurt her. She had seizures and headaches. For the rest of her life, she was never the same.

In 1848, Harriet knew she had to escape. Her owner had just died. That meant Harriet could be sold. She could be moved far from her family. Also, Harriet had been sick. No one wanted a slave who was sick and injured, she thought. Her new owners could get rid of her.

Prereading Activity

Date: _____

Name: _____

Harriet Tubman



CHILDHOOD

ADULTHOOD

LATER LIFE

Foldable

Name: _____ Date: _____

Harriet Tubman

The Underground Railroad didn't have an engine. It didn't have cars. It didn't even go underground. But it did have a conductor. Her name was Harriet Tubman. She led many slaves to freedom using secret trails, hideouts, and helpers.

Harriet was born around 1820. Her parents were slaves. She and her eight siblings were also slaves. Some of her sisters were sold off to farms far away. In time, Harriet's father was not free. But he couldn't find a job nearby. He didn't want to move away from his family. So he kept working for his former owners.

Harriet in 1885

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated to the question, you will need to refer to the answer. You should still look for text evidence.

- Which of these statements about Harriet Tubman are true?
 - a Her parents were set free by their owners.
 - b She was born with a brain disorder that gave her headaches.
 - c Her own brothers tried to have her caught.
 - d She knew how to get around without being caught.
- Which definition of underground best matches the way it is used in the text?
 - a Beneath the surface of the ground
 - b A group or movement, organized secretly
 - c Alternative forms of artistic expression
 - d A subway, especially the one in London
- How are the ideas in Paragraph 4 connected?
 - a Chronological order
 - b Compare and contrast
 - c Problem and solution
 - d Main idea and details
- According to the text, how did changing laws affect Harriet's efforts to help slaves?
 - a The slaves could no longer follow her.
 - b The slaves no longer needed her help.
 - c She could no longer go into the South.
 - d She had to lead them into Canada.
- Some say it was brave for Harriet to return to the South to help others. Others say it was unwise to take such a risk. What do you think? Why?



Name: _____ Date: _____

Harriet Tubman

Harriet Tubman was a leader. Explain why it is important to learn about her.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Harriet Tubman

Text-Dependent Questions

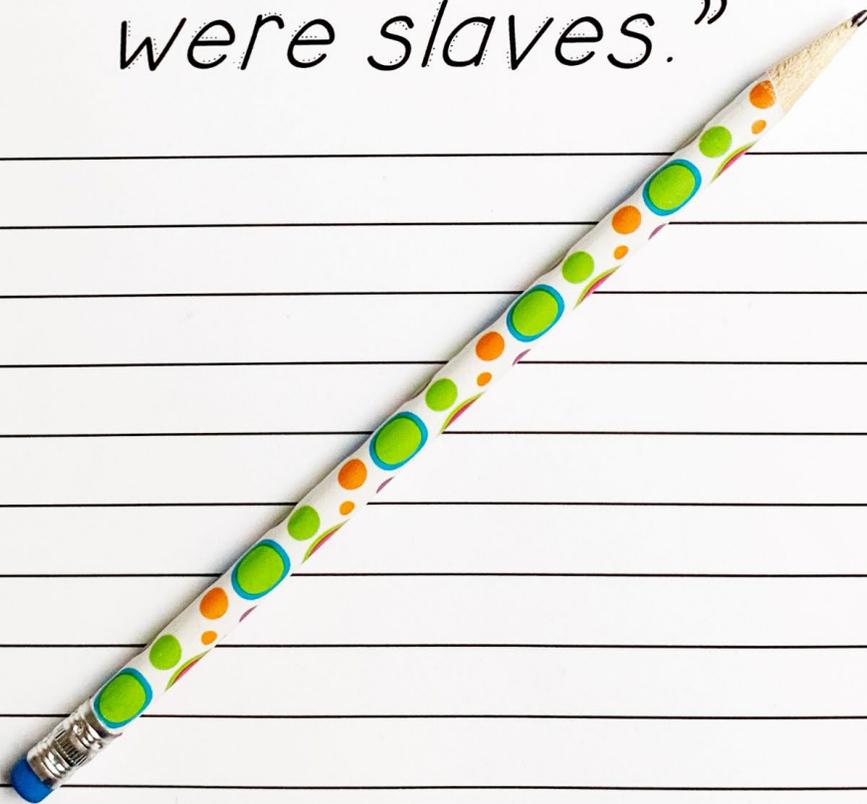
Writing Craftivity

Name: _____ Date: _____

Prereading

Read this quote from Harriet Tubman. Write what you believe this quote means. After reading about Tubman's life and discussing this quote with your class, add to your response.

"I freed a thousand slaves. I could have freed a thousand more if only they knew they were slaves."



L/M
800-900

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Underground Railroad

Harriet Tubman

J/K
600-700

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Underground Railroad didn't have an engine. It didn't have cars for passengers. It didn't even go underground.

Harriet Tubman

H/I
400-500

Name: _____ Date: _____

Harriet Tubman

The Underground Railroad didn't have an engine. It didn't have cars. It didn't even go underground. But it did have a conductor. Her name was Harriet Tubman. She led many slaves to freedom using secret trails, hideouts, and helpers.

Harriet was born around 1820. Her parents were slaves. She and her eight siblings were also slaves. Some of her sisters were sold off to farms far away. In time, Harriet's father was set free. But he couldn't find a job nearby. He didn't want to move away from his family. So he kept working for his former owners.

Harriet in 1885.



Harriet in the late 1860s.

Life as a slave was very hard. Harriet was rented out to work in homes and fields nearby. She was beaten and even whipped. This left her with injuries that didn't heal. Once, Harriet refused to help catch a runaway slave. The angry slave owner hurt her. She had seizures and headaches. For the rest of her life, she was never the same.

In 1849, Harriet knew she had to escape. Her owner had just died. That meant Harriet could be sold. She could be moved far from her family. Also, Harriet had been sick. No one wanted a slave who was sick and injured, she thought. Her new owners would get rid of her.



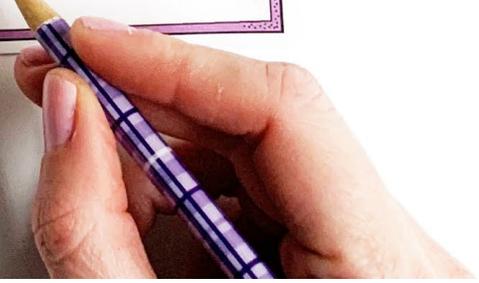

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Harriet Tubman

The Underground Railroad didn't have an engine. It didn't have cars. It didn't even go underground. But it did have a conductor. Her name was Harriet Tubman. She led many slaves to freedom using secret trails, hideouts, and helpers.

Harriet was born around 1820. Her parents were slaves. She and her eight siblings were also slaves. Some of her sisters were sold off to farms far away. In the end, she couldn't find a way to get away from his former owners.

Harriet in 1885.




Harriet Tubman

Answer the following questions. Underline the text evidence in the color indicated. If there is not a crayon next to the question, you will need to infer the answer. You should still look for text evidence to help you infer.

- Which of these statements about Harriet Tubman are true? 
 - Her parents were set free by their owners
 - She was born with a brain disorder that gave her headaches
 - Her own brothers tried to have her caught.
 - She knew how to get around without being caught.
- Which definition of underground best matches the way it is used in the text? 
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- Some say it was brave for Harriet to return to the South to help others. Others say it was unwise to take such a risk. What do you think? Why? 

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Name: _____ Date: _____

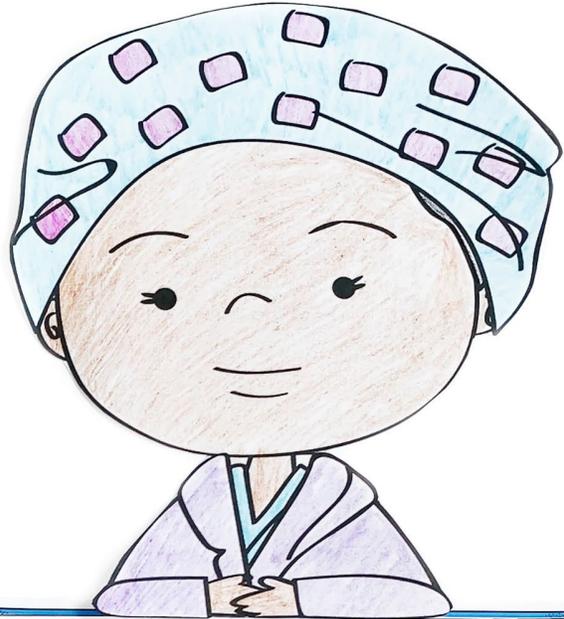
Harriet Tubman

Summarize how Harriet Tubman was a leader. Explain why it is important to learn about her.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.



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Name: _____ Date: _____

Harriet Tubman

Handwriting practice lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.



©2014 Teacher



Harriet Tubman

The Underground Railroad didn't have an engine. It didn't have cars for passengers. It didn't even go underground. But it did have a conductor, and her name was Harriet Tubman. She led many slaves to freedom through this secret network of trails, hideouts, and helpers.

When Harriet was born, around 1820, her parents were slaves in Maryland. She and her eight siblings belonged to their parents' masters. Some of her sisters were sold off to work on farms far away. In time, Harriet's father was set free when his owner died. But Harriet's father couldn't find a job nearby. He didn't want to move away from his wife and children, so he kept working for his former owners.



Harriet in the late 1860s.

Harriet in 1885.



Life as a slave was very hard. Harriet was rented out to work in homes and fields nearby. She was often beaten and even whipped. This left her with injuries that didn't heal. Once, Harriet refused to help capture a runaway slave. The angry slave owner seriously injured Harriet. This gave her seizures, headaches, and sudden sleepiness for the rest of her life.

In 1849, Harriet decided she had to escape. Her owner had just died. That meant Harriet could be sold and moved far from her family. Also, Harriet had just gotten over an illness. No one cared much for a slave who was sickly and injured, she thought. Her new owners would want to get rid of her.

Name: _____ Date: _____

THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

RUNAWAY from the subscriber on Monday the 17th ult., three negroes, named as follows: HARRY, aged about 19 years, has on one side of his neck a wen, just under the ear, he is of a dark chestnut color, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high; BEN, aged about 25 years, is very quick to speak when spoken to, he is of a chestnut color, about six feet high; MINTY, aged about 27 years, is of a chestnut color, fine looking, and about 5 feet high. One hundred dollars reward will be given for each of the above named negroes, if taken out of the State, and \$50 each if taken in the State. They must be lodged in Baltimore, Easton or Cambridge Jail, in Maryland.

ELIZA ANN BRODESS.

Near Bucktown, Dorchester county, Md.

Oct. 3d, 1849.

The Delaware Gazette will please copy the above three weeks, and charge this office.

Notice from the newspaper, offering a reward for capture of "Minty" (Harriet Tubman) and her brothers.

At that time, escaped slaves lived in freedom in the North. But then a new law was passed. It stated that any escaped slave found in the North must be returned to the South. Philadelphia was no longer safe for escaped slaves. Harriet kept leading others to freedom, though. Now, she took them all the way to Canada. There, slavery was against the law.

Harriet made many trips South to help slaves escape. On each trip, they relied on help along the Underground Railroad. Harriet risked her life many times, as many people were trying to catch her. She used disguises and cleverness to avoid being caught. In the end, she helped free her parents, some siblings, and more than 70 others. She became known as "Moses" after the man in the Bible who led his people out of slavery.

During the Civil War, North fought against South to unite the nation and end slavery. Harriet worked for the North as a nurse, a scout, and a spy. When the war ended, she settled in New York. Harriet got married and adopted a daughter. She continued to help former slaves and spoke out for women's right to vote until her death in 1913.

One night, Harriet and two of her brothers escaped. They headed to freedom in Philadelphia. On the way, they saw a newspaper ad offering a \$300 reward for their capture. That was a lot of money back then, so people would be looking for them. The brothers changed their minds about escaping. Harriet made sure they got back home safely. Then she continued on to freedom by herself. Across 90 miles, she relied on free people who helped runaway slaves. Harriet followed trails that led her to safe houses. There, she received food, blankets, and hidden shelter. This network of trails and friends was called the Underground Railroad.

Harriet did not stay in Philadelphia long. She soon learned that some of her family members were going to be sold. Risking recapture, she snuck back into Maryland. Then she helped them escape with her to Philadelphia.

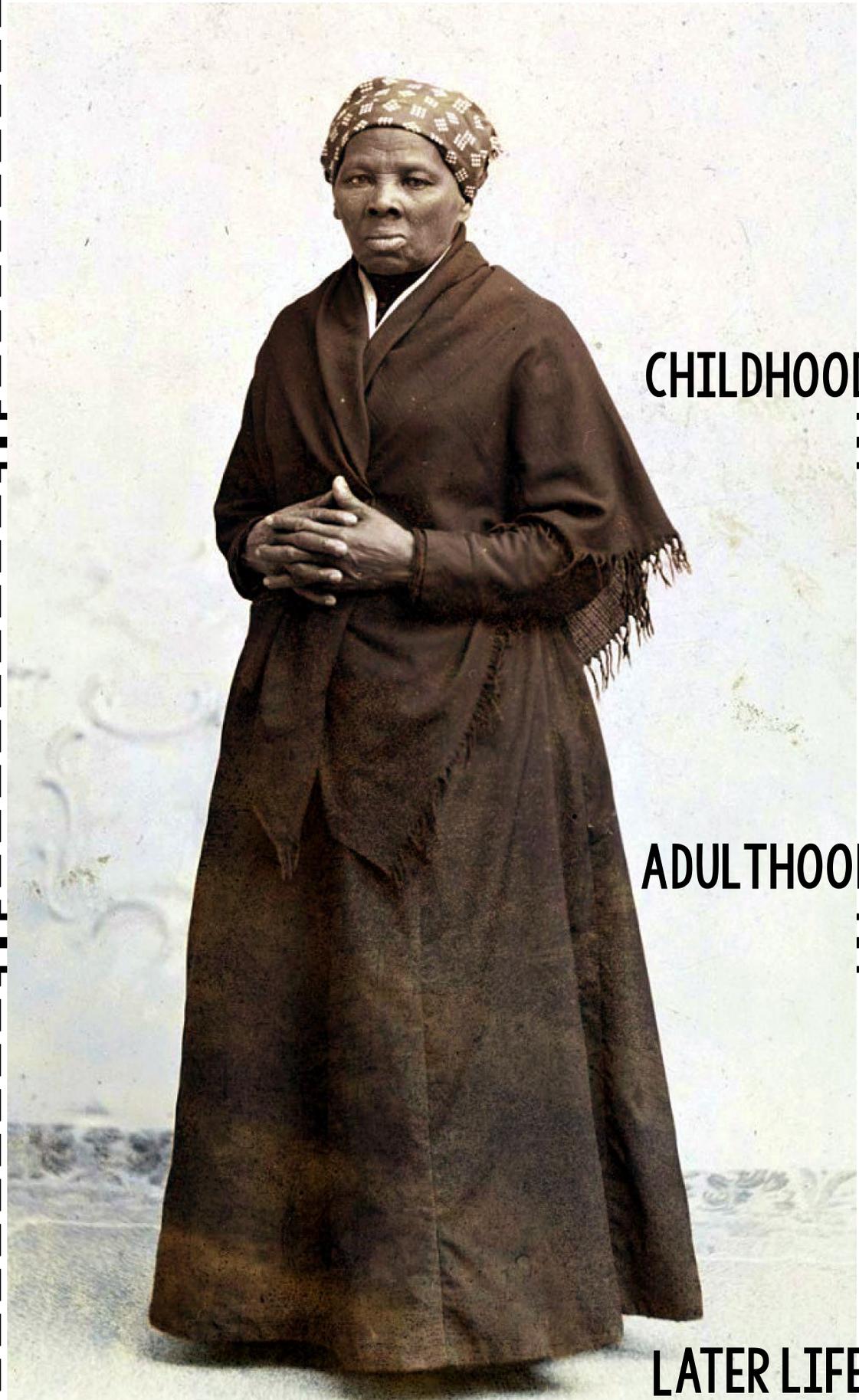


Harriet (far left) with her husband and other family members.

Harriet Tubman

Name: -----

Date: -----



CHILDHOOD

ADULTHOOD

LATER LIFE

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Good to Go



Not O.K.

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