

The *LifeTales* Musical Biography Series

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

A Wayne Scott-*LifeHouse* Production

CURRICULUM CONTENT GUIDE

- Review questions and answers based on the production
- Timeline of highlights from the life of Abraham Lincoln
 - Questions for further study

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LIFE HIGHLIGHTS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

- 1809** - Abraham Lincoln, born February 12, in Hardin County, Kentucky
- 1830** – Lincoln and his family moved to Illinois, near Decatur
- 1831** – Lincoln works for himself in a variety of jobs: boatbuilding and sailing, carpentering, hog-sticking, sawmilling, blacksmithing, river-pilot, logger
- 1831** – Lincoln begins his studies to become a lawyer
- 1834** – Lincoln is elected to the State legislature as part of the Whig party
- 1835** – Lincoln is appointed by President Jackson as the Postmaster for New Salem
- 1838 to 1840** - Reelected to State legislature
- 1842** - Married Miss Mary Todd, of Kentucky
- 1846** – Lincoln is elected to Congress, the single Whig Illinois member. He voted antislavery and sought abolition in the D. C.
- 1849** – Ran for the Senate – Lincoln was defeated
- 1854** – Engaged in debates with Stephen Douglas
- 1856** - Organized the Republican Party and became its chief
- 1858** - Lost in the legislature the senatorship to Stephen Douglas
- 1860** - Nominated for President
- 1861** – Lincoln was inaugurated sixteenth President
- 1863** - Emancipation proclaimed January 1. Lincoln delivers his Gettysburg Cemetery address on November 19
- 1864** - Unanimously nominated as Republican presidential candidate for re-election
- 1865** - April 14, Lincoln assassinated in Ford's Theater, Washington, John Wilkes Booth. He dies at the age of 64

ABRAHAM LINCOLN CONTENT AND REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What was the name of the theater where Abraham Lincoln was assassinated?
2. What law school did Lincoln attend?
3. In what state did Lincoln grow up in?
4. What was the name of Lincoln's main rival in the presidential election?
5. What was the Kansas-Nebraska Act?
6. Which newly formed political party did Lincoln represent when he was elected President in 1860?
7. What was the name of the Confederate President elected in 1861?
8. Who was Lincoln's first choice as general to lead the Union soldiers? Why did Lincoln need to choose a different general?
9. T or F – The battle of Gettysburg was the final and most important battle of the Civil War.
10. What historic monument resides on Robert E. Lee's property?

ABRAHAM LINCOLN CONTENT AND REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What was the name of the theater where Abraham Lincoln was assassinated?
A: Ford's Theater.
2. What law school did Lincoln attend?
A: Lincoln did not attend school. He was self-taught.
3. In what state did Lincoln grow up in?
A: Kentucky.
4. What was the name of Lincoln's main rival in the presidential election?
A: Stephen Douglas.
5. What was the Kansas-Nebraska Act?
A: It allowed each state to decide for themselves whether they will allow slavery. This nullified the Missouri Compromise, which strictly forbade slavery.
6. Which newly formed political party to Lincoln represent when he was elected President in 1860?
A: The Republican Party.
7. What was the name of the Confederate President elected in 1861?
A: Jefferson Davis.
8. Who was Lincoln's first choice as general to lead the Union soldiers? Why did Lincoln need to choose a different general?
A: Robert E. Lee, who had accepted an offer to lead the Confederate soldiers. Lincoln chose Ulysses S. Grant to lead his army.
9. T or F – The battle of Gettysburg was the final and most important battle of the Civil War.
A: False. While Gettysburg was the turning point, there were many more battles which followed.
10. What historic monument resides on Robert E. Lee's property?
A: Arlington National Cemetery.

MORE TO THINK ABOUT

Quotes by Abraham Lincoln

- *Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt.*
- *A house divided against itself cannot stand.*
- *Am I not destroying my enemies when I make friends of them?*
- *Be sure you put your feet in the right place, then stand firm.*
- *Don't worry when you are not recognized, but strive to be worthy of recognition.*
- *If I were two-faced, would I be wearing this one?*
- *If you look for the bad in people expecting to find it, you surely will.*
- *Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right.*

For Further Discussion

1. Name two major issues which contributed to the Civil War. Were these two issues related? What was Abraham Lincoln's position on these issues? Do you agree or disagree with his opinion?
2. What do you think Abraham Lincoln is remembered as one of the nation's greatest Presidents? What characteristics did Lincoln have that contributed to his success? Are these traits that you have or could have?
3. What was Abraham Lincoln trying to communicate in his Gettysburg address? Is this message still important today? What can you do to pass along this message?