



JOURNEY TO GREATNESS

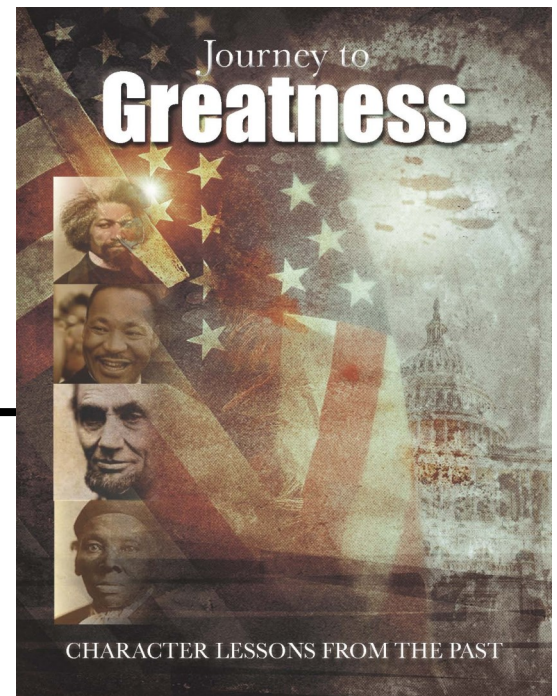
CHARACTER LESSONS FROM THE PAST

www.lookingforlincoln.com/journey

“Journey to Greatness: Character Lessons from the Past” is an on line interactive lesson that provides insight into the stories of Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, and Martin Luther King, Jr. “Journey to Greatness” does not teach about the greatness that these historic characters achieved as adults, but stands as an example to students on the positive choices that these heroes made as children.

Become Part of the Journey

In this interactive lesson students become part of the “Journey to Greatness” of Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Students learn that the challenges faced by children long ago can help them with issues they might face today, on their own “Journey to Greatness.”



Overcome Challenges

“Journey to Greatness” will help students discover how challenges, such as fear; prejudice; poverty; not fitting in; or, anger, can be overcome by demonstrating how heroes from our past made difficult but positive choices as children.

Identify Problem Situations

Which of these challenges have you faced?

- ☒ Fear or uncertainty
- ☐ Racism or prejudice
- ☐ Poverty or need
- ☐ Not fitting in or not belonging
- ☐ Anger

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Personal reflection

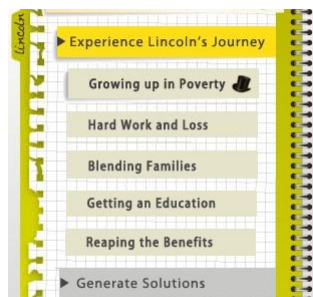
“Journey to Greatness” allows students to “help” the historic characters solve the challenges they faced 150 years ago, and at the same time gain inspiration to conquer the challenges they are facing today.

WHAT WILL YOUR JOURNEY BE?

“LET NO FEELING OF DISCOURAGEMENT PREY UPON YOU, AND IN THE END YOU ARE SURE TO SUCCEED.”
—Abraham Lincoln



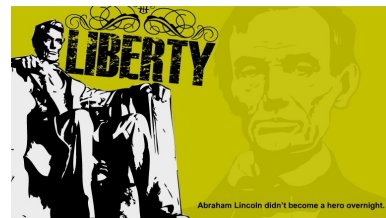
Abraham Lincoln



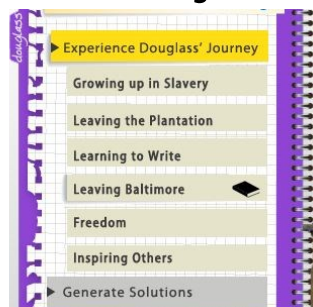
He started out as a regular kid in a poor family, experiencing loss and hardship.

- *Just when we would get settled, it seemed like we were moving again.*
- *Have you ever been a little scared in a place you've lived?*

*Whatever I might have dreamed of—
I saw that it was possible if
I kept working hard.*



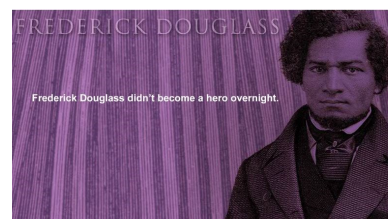
Frederick Douglass



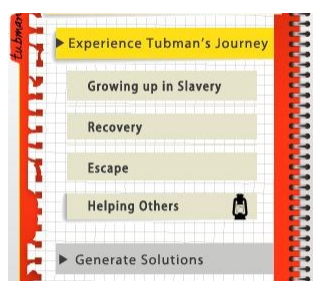
He was born a slave and through slavery became an orphan.

- *I never knew my mother, seeing her only four or five times, and only at night.*
- *By the time I was twelve years old, the thought of being a slave for life began to make me very sad.*

*I never gave up—
I knew one day
I would be free.*



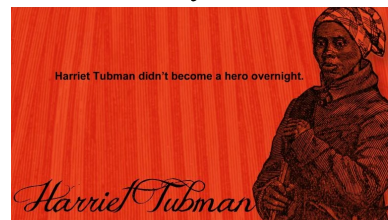
Harriet Tubman



She was born into slavery, and its brutality shaped her life.

- *When I was all of three years old, I began to see and experience the pain and agony of slavery.*
- *These sounds and images have never left me.*

*I couldn't wait
to help more people
be free.*



Martin Luther King, Jr.



He was born into an America defined by segregation and prejudice, and its injustice shaped his life.

- *You wouldn't believe the racial prejudice that existed in those places during that time.*
- *We were not allowed to sit in the seats reserved for the whites.*

*I knew that day that I would
one day achieve my dream
of becoming a minister.*



More Resources



“Journey to Greatness” addresses a variety of the newly adopted “Common Core Standards” and provides lesson plan ideas and links to additional web resources.

“Journey to Greatness” also inspires

students to learn more about the National Parks and other historic sites and museums that are dedicated to the stories of these and other heroes. To learn more about the National Park Service visit www.nps.gov.



About “Journey to Greatness”



“Journey to Greatness” was produced by Lincoln Home National Historic Site through a grant from the Fetzer Institute and developed by Teleologic Learning Company with considerable in-kind time donated to the project. Springfield Public School teachers and others provided valuable advice and comments. The “Journey to Greatness” web site is hosted by the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area at www.lookingforlincoln.com/journey.

