



Title: The Real Harriet Tubman

Subject: ELA & Social Studies

Lesson Plan:

The Real Harriet Tubman

Subject:

American History

Grade:

3-5

Description/

Abstract of Lesson

The students will discover information about Harriet Tubman's extraordinary courage in the face of enormous risks.

SS.3.A.1.2

Utilize technology resources to gather information from primary and secondary sources.

LA.4.6.4.2

Determine and use appropriate digital tools (e.g., word processing, multimedia authoring, web tools, or graphic organizers) for publishing and presenting a topic

Objective(s):

Students will be able to learn about students will learn about Harriet Tubman's extraordinary courage in the face of enormous risks.

Materials:

- Computer for researching sites
- Paper
- Pencil

Duration:

- 2 class periods

Lesson Lead In/ Opening:

Lesson Background Information

Introduce lesson by showing a video of Harriet Tubman click here [HARRIETTUBMAN](#)

Harriet Tubman was born into slavery in Dorchester County, Maryland, sometime between 1820 and 1825. Her original name was Araminta Harriet Ross. Of her eight brothers and sisters, three were sold to another plantation.

An enslaved person's life was often brutal and Harriet was physically abused many times. Once, in her teens, she refused to help an angry overseer subdue a fellow slave. The overseer threw a two-pound weight, hitting Harriet in the head. She never fully recovered from the blow, which resulted in lifelong episodes of losing consciousness.

In her mid-twenties, Harriet married a free black man named John Tubman. Afraid of being sold, she resolved to run away with her two brothers in 1849, but her husband refused to go. After a failed attempt, she escaped alone and used stars in the night sky to navigate, following the North Star to Pennsylvania, a free state.

Activity 1:

Provide students with a picture of Harriet Tubman, ask students to complete the primary source activity click [PRIMARY SOURCE ACTIVITY](#)

Activity 2:

Harriet Tubman took many huge risks before and during the Civil War; she also helped large numbers of people. Create a Venn Diagram, poster, or graphic organizer comparing Harriet Tubman to a contemporary woman who has taken risks and helped many people.

Writing Activity

Students will read and analyze a letter written to Harriet Tubman by Frederick Douglass in 1868, shortly before the publication of *Scenes in the Life of Harriet Tubman*, based on interviews with Tubman and written by author Sarah H. Bradford. Tubman, who had met Douglass through common abolitionist friends, requested a written endorsement from him before the publication of the second volume of her biography. In 1886, Bradford's *Harriet, The Moses of Her People* was published. Douglass's letter, along with testimonials from other prominent people, appears in the second book's appendix. ?"

Have students complete [Harriettubmanvideoactivity](#)

Suggested Books:

Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the Sky (Paperback)

by Faith Ringgold **She Came to Slay: The Life and Times of Harriet Tubman (Hardcover)** by Kate McMullan

Web Resources

<https://guides.loc.gov/harriet-tubman>

<https://guides.loc.gov/harriet-tubman/digital-resources>