

# Underground Railroad

## Course 13 - Lesson

### Key Themes

- Perseverance
- Determination
- Activism

### Core Values

- Faith
- Liberty
- Community
- Life

### Learning Objectives

- Describe Harriet Tubman's reputation in her community and how she earned it
- Explain Harriet Tubman's role in the Civil War
- Tell something Harriet Tubman did that showed she trusted God

# Underground Railroad - 4th Grade

## Key Terms

- 01 **Harriet Tubman** — an abolitionist and social activist who helped rescue people from the bondage of slavery and further the rights of black Americans and women across America
- 02 **The Underground Railroad** — A network of people who helped freedom seekers on their journey and began at places with slavery and followed routes toward freedom
- 03 **Peril** — Danger
- 04 **Abolitionist** — A person who supports the ending of slavery
- 05 **Conductor** — Those who helped “freedom seekers” safely navigate the route to freedom
- 06 **Frederick Douglass** — An abolitionist movement leader
- 07 **Activist** — Someone who tirelessly works for a particular cause

# Underground Railroad - 4th Grade

# Introduction

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## **ASK** Students

What would it take for someone under age 18 to make a change in the world? Think about big issues like safety, poverty, and the environment. What does a young person need in order to change laws that affect all people? Courage? Hard work? Intelligence? (**allow students to respond**)

## **KEY** Point

In the last lesson, we learned about the Civil War and abolitionists, who were people that were working hard to end slavery in America. Harriet Tubman was one of these abolitionists and was of the most courageous activists in American history, dedicated to fighting for freedom.

## **WATCH**

Learn More with Liberty:

**Episode 13 Cartoon, Abolition, and Harriet Tubman's Heroism**

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# Lesson Guide

## TELL Students

Harriet Tubman became a respected and well-connected conductor and established her own Underground Railroad network. She led more than seventy slaves to freedom and instructed dozens of others on the best ways to escape. Harriet said, "I never ran my train off the track, and I never lost a passenger."

Harriet's heroic reputation spread throughout the abolitionist community, earning her the nickname, "Moses." Even though she couldn't read or write, Harriet gave speeches at antislavery and women's rights conventions to tell people about her life and the horrific evils of slavery.

As the Civil War erupted, Harriet continued to fight for freedom, although in different ways than before. Harriet conducted her last rescue mission in November 1861 before going to work with the Union Army. She left for South Carolina in 1862 to provide much-needed nursing care for black soldiers and recently freed slaves. She also led a spying and scouting network for the Union Army and bravely conducted missions behind Confederate enemy lines. Additionally, she helped rescue more than 700 slaves in June 1863 during an assault mission with Colonel James Montgomery along the Combahee River. After her brave actions in the war, Harriet became well-known across the country as a five-foot tall force to be reckoned with.

# Underground Railroad - 4th Grade

# Lesson Guide

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## **TELL** Students

In a letter to Harriet, Fredrick Douglass wrote, "The midnight sky and the silent stars have been the witnesses of your devotion to freedom and of your heroism. Excepting John Brown – of sacred memory – I know of no one who has willingly encountered more perils and hardships to serve our enslaved people than you have."

As the war came to an end, Harriet went to Auburn, New York, and remarried. A very committed and dedicated woman, Harriet stayed active her entire life, always helping those in need. As Harriet said, "The Lord who told me to take care of my people meant me to do it just as long as I live, and so I did what He told me."

# Underground Railroad - 4th Grade Assessment

1. Harriet Tubman was a well respected \_\_\_\_\_ on the Underground Railroad.

- a. Conductor
- b. Runaway
- c. Fugitive
- d. Committee

2. Harriet said, "I never ran my train off the track, and I never lost a \_\_\_\_\_."

- a. Conductor
- b. Abolitionist
- c. Passenger
- d. Runaway

3. What was Harriet Tubman's nickname in the abolitionist community?

- a. Minty
- b. Araminta
- c. Harry
- d. Moses

4. How did Harriet Tubman share her story of the horrors of slavery and how she escaped?

- a. Publishing newspaper articles
- b. Giving speeches
- c. Writing stories
- d. Keeping a journal

5. What month and year was Harriet Tubman's last rescue mission?

- a. November 1850
- b. September 1849
- c. November 1861
- d. December 1863

6. Where did Harriet Tubman work after she left the Underground Railroad?

- a. The Union Navy
- b. The Union Army
- c. The Confederate Army
- d. The Mason-Dixon Line

7. In what capacity did Harriet Tubman NOT work during her time in the military?

- a. Teaching
- b. Spying
- c. Nursing
- d. Scouting

8. About how many slaves did Harriet Tubman rescue during an assault mission in June 1863?

- a. Several Dozen
- b. About 100
- c. About 70
- d. Over 700

9. What state did Harriet Tubman move to after her time in the Civil War?

- a. The abolitionist community
- b. James Montgomery
- c. Frederick Douglass
- d. Abraham Lincoln

10. Who wrote Harriet Tubman a letter stating that she had "willingly encountered more perils and hardships to serve enslaved people" than anyone he knew?

- a. New York
- b. South Carolina
- c. Maryland
- d. Pennsylvania