



# Harriet Tubman

## read-along guide

### page overview

#### Cover

The first thing to notice is the lack of lantern. Harriet did not carry one most of her time working the Underground Railroad. She needed to go unnoticed, and didn't want others to know where they were.

#### Pages 1-2

She was called the Moses of her people because she helped deliver them from slavery, just like Moses did with the Jews.

#### Pages 3-4

Harriet saved people of all ages: men, women and children. She was always careful to make sure her group was quiet and well-behaved on the journey so they would not be caught. The North Star was their trusty guide.

#### Pages 5-6

Another misconception about Harriet and the other slaves is that they all picked cotton. In Maryland, most farms grew tobacco, wheat or corn. The typical Maryland home was also modest, not a large plantation home. Harriet spent her childhood as a household servant, taking care of the master's baby. It was a hard task for a 5-year-old, one that she did until she was 12. After that she worked the fields or was sent off to other homes in the area. In the sky is part of the hymn 'Go Down Moses,' one that Harriet used to signal to other slaves among other codes. Hymns were very important to the African American community, providing hope and a way to communicate to one another secretly.

#### Pages 7-8

When Harriet Tubman first ran to freedom, she followed the North Star. She made her way to Pennsylvania (a free state) and later Philadelphia where she worked to earn enough money to save the rest of her family.

#### Pages 9-10

Here we see a map with the trail that Harriet Tubman learned to use well. A typical misconception is that Harriet herself founded the Underground Railroad. In reality, it was already in use when she started her work. It is also more than just one route. There were many trails that 'conductors' used. With the guidance of others, she used this network of people to help save over 300 former slaves.

#### Pages 11-12

This is one of my favorites, with all of the headlines, images, and articles from her time. See the hymn with one of her codes? Can you spot the different headlines? One of them highlights the bounties that were put out for her. Slave owners hated her and were determined to catch her! But she was clever, and knew just how to stay hidden, even sometimes passing right under their nose. After she had finished with the underground railroad, she went on to serve in the union army as a nurse and spy. She helped to lead a river raid with the army, saving over 700 slaves. She was a very resourceful and smart lady.

#### Pages 13-14

Harriet Tubman used many different means of smuggling people into freedom, one was by wagon. She made over 19 trips to Maryland to save people. She even helped bring her 70-year-old parents to freedom. She was very proud she never lost anyone on her journeys. As she said, "On my Underground Railroad I (never) run my train off (the) track (and) I never (lost) a passenger."

#### Pages 15-16

Here we see the signing of the 13th amendment, which abolished slavery. Harriet was a big part of the emancipation of slaves. Despite her illiteracy, she was outspoken and determined. She was close to abolitionists like Frederick Douglass, and was a key resource for intelligence in the Union army.

#### Pages 17-18

This is such a cool illustration that shows her life cycle. From her beginning of life, to her final days in Rochester New York.

#### Pages 19-20

I think this page is so important because it calls out all of her additional accomplishments. Although what she did with the Underground Railroad was amazing, she did so much more. She was truly a Legendary Lady.

#### Pages 21-22

With this final spread, we want to encourage you and your children to find your own North Stars. Whether it be to stand up for what's right, to be the first at something, or to try something new for yourself. Use this star, with Harriet's guidance, and with it you can achieve anything you want.



# Harriet Tubman

read-along guide

## words to know

### Slavery

This is best described as having to live, work, and do what others tell you at all times, even when it's bad for you or your family. They were not free to make their own choices, or live their lives. After a while, people began to see the error in their thoughts and ways, and fought for them to be free.

### Enter your own words

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### Underground Railroad

This was a network of secret routes and safe houses throughout the US, leading those on the run to freedom. It was not, in fact, a railroad; but it was a sort of secret club of people who wanted to help free the slaves. Through secret codes, symbols and more, they could help those on the run to find safe passage to the free states and Canada.

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### Conductor

These were the people that led the slaves through the Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman being one of them.. They were called conductors because they knew the route well, and could lead to the safe-houses (called 'stations'). They were from various backgrounds, and included free-born African Americans, former slaves, and white abolitionists. Conductors never knew more than a few key details of routes and stations, in order to keep the secrets of the Railroad alive. Conductors would sometimes even pretend to be a slave in order to enter a plantation or farm. From there, they would use the secret codes and hymns to organize their groups, and direct them North.

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### Abolish

This is to formally put an end to (a system, practice, or institution).

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### Abolitionist

This is the term used for people who want to free others from slavery. They sought to reform the law, speak out against slavery, and help them find their way to freedom.

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### 13th Amendment

This addition to the US Constitution abolished slavery, passed in 1864. It was the first of three Reconstruction Amendments adopted following the Civil War.

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As it says "Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction. Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

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