

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

*Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follow!*

# ABRAHAM LINCOLN

**A**braham Lincoln was born in 1807 in Kentucky to Thomas and Nancy Lincoln. When Abe was just nine years old his mother died and his sister Sarah took care of him until his father remarried. Lincoln had less than a year of schooling. The family owned a Bible and he spent many hours reading it. By the time he was 17, he knew he wanted to be a lawyer.. When he was 21 years old he moved to Illinois and spent a year laboring on a farm. When he was a shopkeeper he tried to be honest and fair. He still wanted to be a lawyer. In 1836 he passed the test and became a lawyer. It was during this time he was elected to the Illinois legislature by the Whig party. He became good at debating and public speaking. Lincoln was inaugurated president in March of 1861. Five weeks later the Civil War began.

Lincoln wanted the United States to remain one nation. Two years later, President Lincoln wrote: "My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save or to destroy slavery." He was able to realize both of his goals. In 1863 he issued the Emancipation Proclamation freeing the slaves, in the Southern states, and the country was able to remain a united nation. Eventually all the slaves in the United States became free. On April 14, 1865 President Lincoln and Mrs. Lincoln was attending a play at Ford's Theater in Washington D.C. While there he was assassinated and died nine hours later. The events that occurred during the time that Abraham Lincoln was president included the attack on Fort Sumter and the start of the Civil War (1861-1863), the Emancipation Proclamation (1863), the Conscription Act (1863) and the Gettysburg Address (1863).

1. What do you know about Abraham Lincoln's early life?

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2. What did Lincoln do before 1836?

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3. What did Lincoln say and what did he do about the Civil War?

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4. How was Lincoln assassinated?

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5. Write the achievements of Abraham Lincoln.

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