



The Mini Page

Betty Debnam, Founding Editor and Editor at Large

© 2011 Universal Uclick



from The Mini Page © 2011 Universal Uclick

Presidents Day is Feb. 21

Unlocking Mr. Lincoln



An exact model of the Kentucky cabin where Lincoln was born.

Abraham Lincoln, one of our greatest presidents, was born on Feb. 12, 1809, in Kentucky. His father, Thomas, was a farmer and carpenter.

When Lincoln was 7, his family moved to Indiana. His mother, Nancy, died two years later. She drank milk from a cow that had eaten a poisonous plant.

The next year, Thomas Lincoln married a widow with three children. Sarah, a kind woman, raised Abe and his sister, Sarah, as if they were her own children. She was an old woman when this picture was taken.



Abraham Lincoln was president during the Civil War, which began 150 years ago this April. Let's unlock some facts about our 16th president as we celebrate Presidents Day next week.

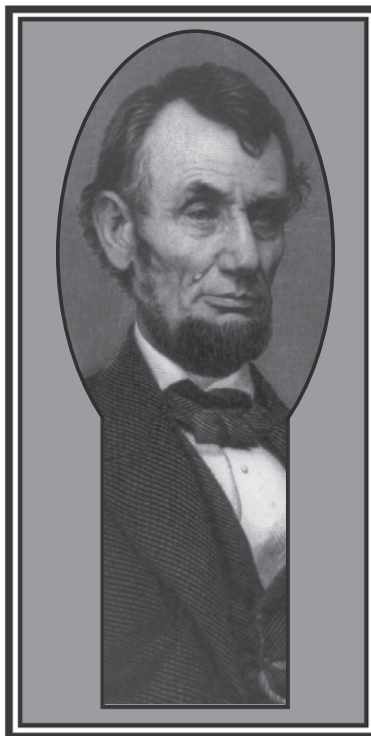


photo courtesy Pennsylvania Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

Lincoln mostly educated himself. He went to one-room cabin schools for only about one year during his lifetime. He learned to love books and newspapers.

Lincoln was a great help to his father on the farm. However, he always found time to read. He usually carried a book in his hand or in his pocket. He would walk for miles to borrow one.



Lincoln at work as a postmaster.

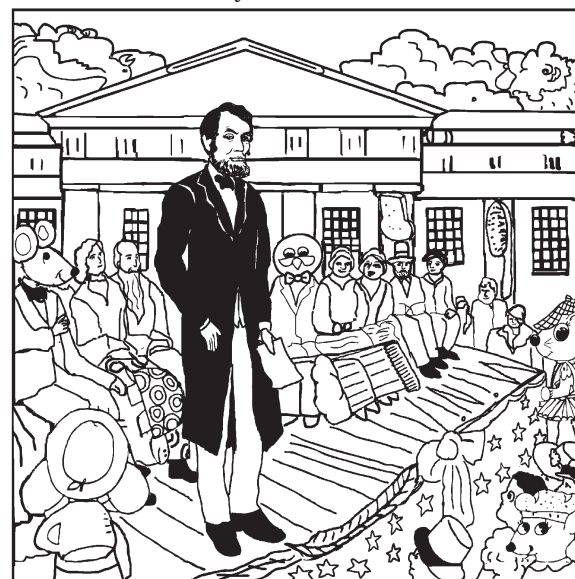
At age 22, Lincoln moved to New Salem, Ill. He worked at several jobs. He was strong and tall (6 feet, 4 inches). He worked as a rail-splitter, postmaster, storekeeper and surveyor.

Mini Spy . . .



Mini Spy and her friends are listening to Lincoln's speech. See if you can find:

- cardinal
- feather
- word MINI
- hairbrush
- turtle
- pencil
- mug
- funny man
- boomerang
- apple
- fish
- bread loaf
- comb
- muffin
- slice of bread



from The Mini Page © 2011 Universal Uclick

Rookie Cookie's Recipe Lemon Salad Dressing

You'll need:

- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/8 teaspoon salt

What to do:

1. Combine all ingredients in a small bowl.
2. Whisk or stir briskly with a fork until well-blended.
3. Serve over salad greens.

You will need an adult's help with this recipe.



from The Mini Page © 2011 Universal Uclick

Meet Jack Black



Jack Black stars as Lemuel Gulliver in the movie "Gulliver's Travels." He is also the executive producer.

Jack has starred in many movies, including "School of Rock" and "King Kong." He was the voice of Po in "Kung Fu Panda" and the voice of Zeke in "Ice Age." He has acted in many TV shows as well.

He is the lead singer in a band that plays rock and folk music and performs comedy. With his band, Tenacious D, he has helped raise money for charities working on health causes.

Jack, 41, was born in Hermosa Beach, Calif. He was a member of an acting troupe in college.

from The Mini Page © 2011 Universal Uclick

Gus Goodsport's Report Supersport: Geno Auriemma

Birthdate: 3-23-54 **Hometown:** Montella, Italy
Geno Auriemma is a big man in women's basketball — and beyond. He's a giant in the coaching profession, period. Prior to a recent loss to Stanford, his Connecticut women teams had won 90 straight games, the all-time collegiate record. After UConn broke the UCLA men's mark of 88 wins in a row, Auriemma received a congratulatory phone call from President Barack Obama, an avid basketball fan.

Auriemma, who moved to the U.S. at age 7, is living the American coach's dream. In 25-plus seasons at Connecticut, his talented, well-drilled squads have captured seven national championships, 16 Big East Tournament titles, and won more than 86 percent of their games. His players' graduation rate is even more impressive.

Auriemma has been chosen to coach the U.S. women in the 2012 Olympics. Who better to lead America than Geno, one of America's best!

from The Mini Page © 2011 Universal Uclick

More About Mr. Lincoln



Each spring and fall, Lincoln rode through Illinois for about 10 weeks, offering his services as a lawyer in county courts.

Abraham Lincoln was a good speaker. He ran for the Illinois state legislature. He lost, but he ran again and won in 1834, and then three more times.

He decided to become a lawyer and moved to Springfield, Ill., the state capital, in 1837 to practice law.

In 1846, Lincoln was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. He served only one term. He returned to Springfield and his law practice.

In November 1842, Lincoln married Mary Todd in Springfield. He was 33 years old, and she was almost 24.



photo courtesy Library of Congress

The Lincolns had four sons. Eddie died at 3 years old. Willie died at age 11, and Tad died at age 18.

Robert was the only one who lived to be an adult.



The Lincoln family, left to right: Mary, Willie, Robert, Tad and Abraham.

While he was a congressman, Lincoln came up with a plan to abolish, or get rid of, slavery in the District of Columbia. After his return to Springfield, he began to speak out against slavery.

During his run for the U.S. Senate in 1858, he spoke his famous words about the United States:

"A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved — I do not expect the house to fall — but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing, or all the other."

Lincoln meant that the United States could not continue with some states supporting slavery and others supporting freedom for African Americans. He thought the country would have to choose one position or the other.

President Lincoln



At Lincoln's first inauguration in 1861, the Capitol dome was still being built.

Lincoln won the Republican nomination for president in 1860. His running mate was Sen. Hannibal Hamlin of Maine.

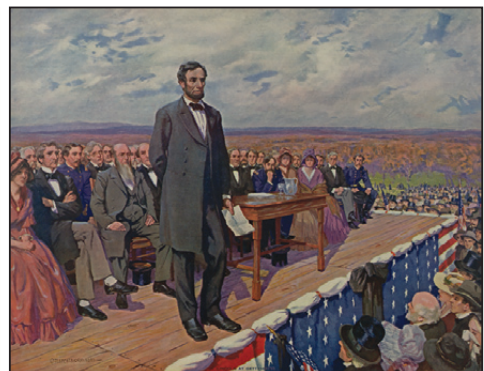
He won the presidential election and was inaugurated on March 4, 1861. In April, the Civil War began.

By the time Lincoln became president, seven states had seceded (seh-SEED-ed), or split from, the Union. Confederate, or Southern, states attacked Fort Sumter near Charleston, S.C.; this was the first battle of the Civil War.

The Mini Page thanks James Cornelius, curator, Lincoln Collection, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum, Springfield, Ill., for help with this issue.

Next week, The Mini Page is about heart health for kids.

Look in your newspaper for news and events related to Presidents Day.



Part of Lincoln's address at Gettysburg encouraged people to continue working toward unity: "It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us ... that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom — and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Lincoln was re-elected in 1864. He pleaded for peace and forgiveness between the North and the South. The war ended in April 1865.

On April 14, 1865, Lincoln and his wife went to a play at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C. As he watched the play, Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth. He died the next day.



This is the box where Lincoln was sitting when he was shot.

We celebrate Presidents Day in February because both George Washington and Abraham Lincoln were born in February. How will you celebrate this special day?

The Emancipation Proclamation (ee-man-sih-PAY-shun prahk-luh-MAY-shun)

declared that slaves in the Confederate states were to be emancipated, or freed. Lincoln signed the proclamation in January 1863.

At the Battle of Gettysburg (Pa.) in July 1863, Union forces turned Confederate soldiers back. Many thousands of fighters on both sides were killed. In November 1863, Lincoln gave his famous Gettysburg Address at the dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery.



Abraham Lincoln is buried in Springfield, Ill. He is remembered as the great man who held our country together during its most difficult war.

MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes

All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category?

- Chris:** Why was George Washington always standing in official portraits?
- Annie:** Because he could never lie!
- Jack:** What was Abraham Lincoln's nickname when he was an infant?
- Mike:** Babe Lincoln!
- Maggie:** If George Washington and Abraham Lincoln were alive today, what would be the most amazing fact about them?
- Riley:** Their age!

Basset Brown The News Hound's Presidents Day TRY 'N FIND

Words that remind us of Abraham Lincoln are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find: ABRAHAM, BOOTH, CIVIL, EMANCIPATION, GETTYSBURG, ILLINOIS, KENTUCKY, LAWYER, LINCOLN, MARY, NANCY, POSTMASTER, PRESIDENT, READ, SARAH, SECEDE, SLAVERY, SPEAKER, TALL, THOMAS, WAR.

LINCOLN STILL INSPIRES US!

R E T S A M T S O P H A R A S
Y J N R B G E T T Y S B U R G
K R E K A E P S A M O H T A E
C I D L A W Y E R H T O O B D
U L I N C O L N A N C Y W R E
T G S V M X Q I L L A T K A C
N R E A D S L A V E R Y C H E
E F R Z J S I O N I L L I A S
K Y P N O I T A P I C N A M E

Ready Resources

The Mini Page provides ideas for websites, books or other resources that will help you learn more about this week's topics.

- On the Web:**
 - www.americaslibrary.gov/aa/lincoln/aa_lincoln_subj.html
 - www.alplm.org
- At the library:**
 - "Abraham Lincoln: America's 16th President" by Steven Otfinoski
 - "Abe Lincoln's Hat" by Martha Brenner

The Mini Page Staff
Betty Debnam - Founding Editor and Editor at Large Lisa Tarry - Managing Editor Lucy Lien - Associate Editor Wendy Daley - Artist

NEW! The Mini Page® Book of States

The Mini Page's popular series of issues about each state is collected here in a 156-page softcover book. Conveniently spiral-bound for ease of use, this invaluable resource contains A-to-Z facts about each state, along with the District of Columbia. Illustrated with colorful photographs and art, and complete with updated information, The Mini Page Book of States will be a favorite in classrooms and homes for years to come.



To order, send \$15.99 (\$19.99 Canada) plus \$5 postage and handling for each copy. Make check or money order (U.S. funds only) payable to Universal Uclick. Send to The Mini Page Book of States, Universal Uclick, P.O. Box 6814, Leawood, KS 66206. Or call toll-free 800-591-2097 or go to www.smartwarehousing.com.

Please send _____ copies of *The Mini Page Book of States* (Item #0-7407-8549-4) at \$20.99 each, total cost. (Bulk discount information available upon request.)
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____