

## **Abraham Lincoln - 16<sup>th</sup> President A00112**

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**This material was adapted by Peter Schmitt from an article about Lincoln on the Simple English Wikipedia website.**

**Audio is read by Rhonda Schmitt**

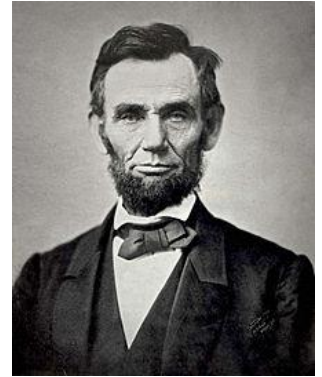
**([http://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraham\\_Lincoln](http://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraham_Lincoln))**

# Abraham Lincoln

(Based on an article from Simple English Wikipedia)

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

Abraham Lincoln lived from 1809 until 1865. He was the 16<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. He was President during the American Civil War. He is famous because he worked to end slavery in the United States.



Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 1809 in the state of Kentucky. His parents were



named Thomas and Nancy. Lincoln's family was poor. He grew up in a small, one room log cabin. Lincoln's family moved to Indiana when Abraham was seven years old. Later they moved to Illinois. When Abraham Lincoln was young, he helped his father with work on the farm. He did not attend

school for very long. Some say that he only went to school for one year.

Lincoln left home when he was 22 years old. After he left home, he worked in a "general store." In 1842 he married Mary Todd Lincoln. They had four children. Three of the children died when they were still young.

People knew that they could trust Abraham Lincoln. Because of that, he is sometimes called "Honest Abe."

In 1837 Lincoln began to work as a lawyer. He was one of the most respected lawyers in Illinois. He became a representative in the state legislature. There he spoke against slavery. In 1846 he became a member of the United States House of Representatives.

In 1860 Lincoln was elected President of the United States. Soon after his election, eleven states in the southern part of the United States declared independence from the U.S. They called themselves the "Confederacy." Those states believed in slavery. They were afraid that if they remained in the United States, they would not be able to keep their slaves. The American Civil War was fought from 1861 until April 9<sup>th</sup> 1865.

During the Civil War, Lincoln led the nation. On January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1863, he made a proclamation. It said that the slaves in the southern states were free. Lincoln did not live long enough to see the reunification of the nation. On April 14<sup>th</sup> 1865 Lincoln was shot in the head. He died the next day. He was the first President to be assassinated.



Many say that Abraham Lincoln was one of the greatest Presidents of the United States.

### Check Your Understanding

1. Where was Abraham Lincoln born? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Did Lincoln's family have a lot of money? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Did Abraham Lincoln work in a bank? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Was Lincoln the 5<sup>th</sup> President? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Did Lincoln support slavery? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What was the "Confederacy?" \_\_\_\_\_
7. How did Lincoln die? \_\_\_\_\_

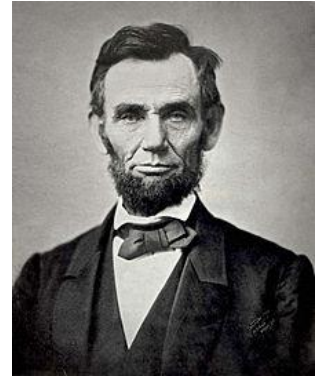
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