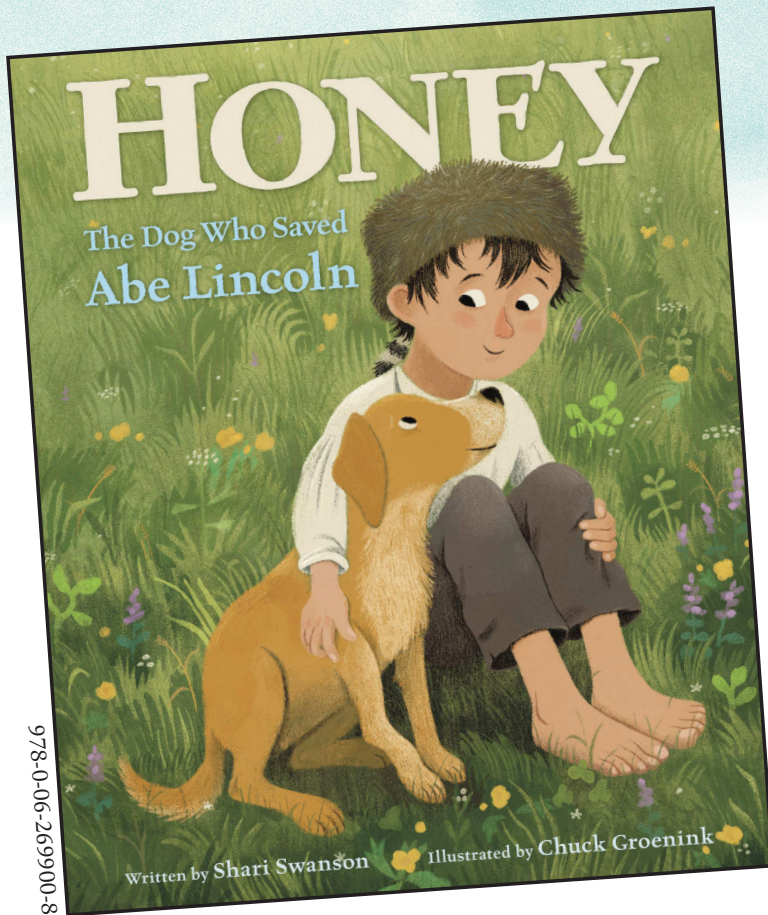


Curriculum Guide



HONEY The Dog Who Saved Abe Lincoln

BY
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ILLUSTRATED BY
Chuck Groenink

BEFORE HE WAS PRESIDENT of the United States of America, Abraham Lincoln was a young boy running barefoot through the hills and hollows of Knob Creek, Kentucky. He rescued animals, set them free from traps, and snatched frogs out of the jaws of snakes.

This is the true story of one extra-special childhood rescue—a dog named Honey, who found his way into Abe’s heart, became his best friend, and saved his life.

“This heartwarming story of a boy and his beloved dog opens the door for further study of our 16th president.”—*KIRKUS REVIEWS*

“A great addition to an early elementary discussion of Lincoln, showing him as a boy their own age with a soft spot for animals.”—*SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL*

“An enjoyable, Lincoln-themed picture book.”—*BOOKLIST*














KATHERINE TEGEN BOOKS
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The Common Core State Standards addressed by the discussion questions, activities, and worksheets in this guide are noted throughout. For more information on the Common Core, visit corestandards.org.

Discussion Questions

Unless otherwise noted, all discussion questions meet the following Common Core State Standards: [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.1](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.1](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.1](#)

-  The story begins with Abraham Lincoln kneeling in the woods. What was he doing in the woods? What do his actions reveal about his character? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3](#)
-  Mr. John Hodgen is a miller. What does a miller do? What information about his job can you gather from the illustration of Abe leaving Mr. John's place? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.7](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.7](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.7](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.7](#)
-  Abe tells Mr. John that he is often late “because I see so many little foolish things that make me stop.” What makes Abe stop again while on his way home from Mr. John's place?
-  Although Abe is just seven years old, he seems to know a great deal about animals. How did Abe learn how to treat and take care of injured animals?
-  What was Abe's mother's reaction when Abe came home late with Honey? What does her reaction tell you about the connection between mother and son? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3](#)
-  When Abe once again shows up late to drop off his grain at Mr. John's mill, Mr. John wonders why Abe is so distracted by the hills and hollows. What is positive about Abe's wanderings in the woods? What is negative about his tendency to wander off and explore? Cite examples from the text to support your opinions. [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3](#)
-  When Abe first brought his dog, Honey, home, he told his mother that the dog would “do lots of good things for me.” How did Abe's belief about his dog come true?
-  What role did Mr. John play in helping to rescue Abe from deep inside the cavern?
-  Abe spent his youth doing chores for his family and exploring the woods and valleys around Knob Creek, Kentucky. What qualities did Abe show as a young boy that would serve him well when he eventually became president of the United States? [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3](#)
-  Re-read the Author's Note. Who is Austin Gollaher? How did author Shari Swanson learn about Honey and Abe Lincoln's experience in the cavern? What does an “oral tradition” of telling stories mean?
-  Study the endpapers at the beginning and end of the book. How does this map add to your understanding of the events in the story? Trace Abe's journey to the mill. [CCSS.ELA-RI.3.7](#)

The discussion questions, activities, and worksheets in this guide were created by Leigh Courtney, Ph.D. She teaches in the Global Education program at a public elementary school in San Diego, California. She holds both master's and doctoral degrees in education, with an emphasis on curriculum and instruction.

Activities for Students

Meet Abe Lincoln

Design a character poster for Abraham Lincoln. Draw a picture of Abe and label the poster with his name. List some facts about Abe that you learned from the story. Create a second list on your poster of words that describe what type of person young Abe was. [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.3](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3](#)

Animal Encounters Timeline

Though the book is titled *Honey, the Dog Who Saved Abe Lincoln*, there were many times in Abraham Lincoln's life where he saved the lives of animals. The timeline at the back of the book is organized by years and by the places where Abe lived. Choose one animal encounter from each time period and create an illustrated timeline putting the encounters in chronological order. Use a long strip of paper and draw a line the length of it to create your timeline. Draw illustrations above the timeline and write the year and a caption describing each encounter Abe had with animals. Abe was born in 1809; determine his age at each encounter included on your timeline. [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.1](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.1](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.1](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1](#)

Nocturnal Animals

Nocturnal animals are active at night and sleep during the day. Salamanders, owls, and bats are nocturnal and are still found in the region of Kentucky where Abe Lincoln grew up. What nocturnal animals are common where you live? Select a nocturnal animal and research it. How has it adapted to being active at night? Create a poster report about your chosen animal and include drawings or photos and information about the animal's habitat, diet, behaviors, special adaptations, and other interesting facts discovered in your research. [CCSS.LITERACY.W.K.2](#); [CCSS.LITERACY.W.1.2](#); [CCSS.LITERACY.W.2.2](#), [CCSS.LITERACY.W.3.2](#)

Kentucky Caverns

Kentucky is home to hundreds of miles of caves and winding caverns. Work with a partner and research one of the following Kentucky cavern areas and learn all you can about these natural wonders and their histories: Mammoth Cave National Park, Diamond Caverns, Carter Caves State Park, or Louisville Mega Cavern. Work with your partner to create a detailed map, model, or diorama of a cavern based on the information you learned in your research. Write a list of cavern facts and share your project with your classmates. [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.1.2](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.2](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.2](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2](#)

Extra! Extra!

Pretend you are a newspaper reporter in Knob Creek, Kentucky. Write an article describing Abe's dramatic rescue from the cavern with the help of the townsfolk and Abe's beloved dog Honey. Remember that a newspaper article needs a headline that will grab the attention of the reader, and that the article needs to include facts and to tell the story in the order in which the events occurred. [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.2](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.1.2](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.2](#); [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.2](#)



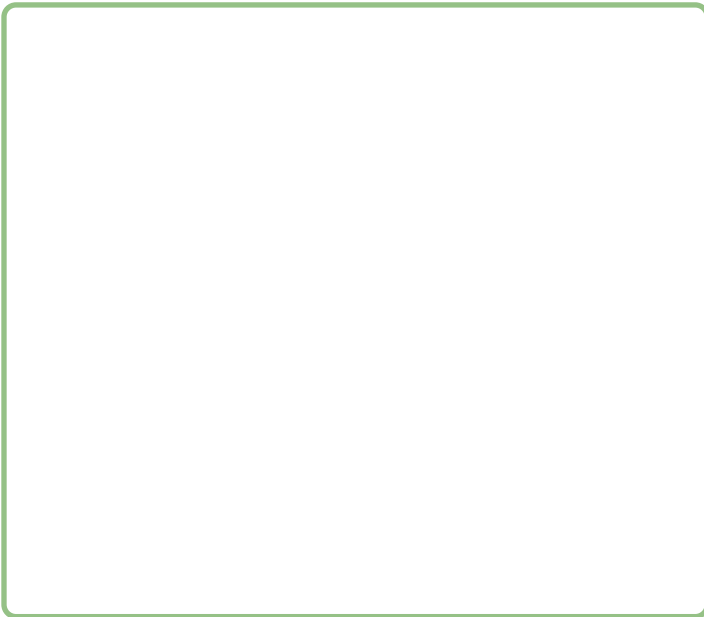
NAME: _____

SETTING THE SCENE

This story of Abe Lincoln and his dog Honey takes place in a few different settings. Look at the illustrations of Abe's home when he brings Honey to meet his family and of the cavern where Abe finds himself stuck. Draw a picture of each setting. Notice the nocturnal animals in the cavern illustration; include those in your drawing. Label the different items and details that you include in each drawing. Below the drawings write three sentences describing each one and the feelings that each setting may give the reader. How do the nocturnal animals affect the feelings associated with the cavern setting?

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.7; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.7; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.7; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.7

ABE'S HOUSE

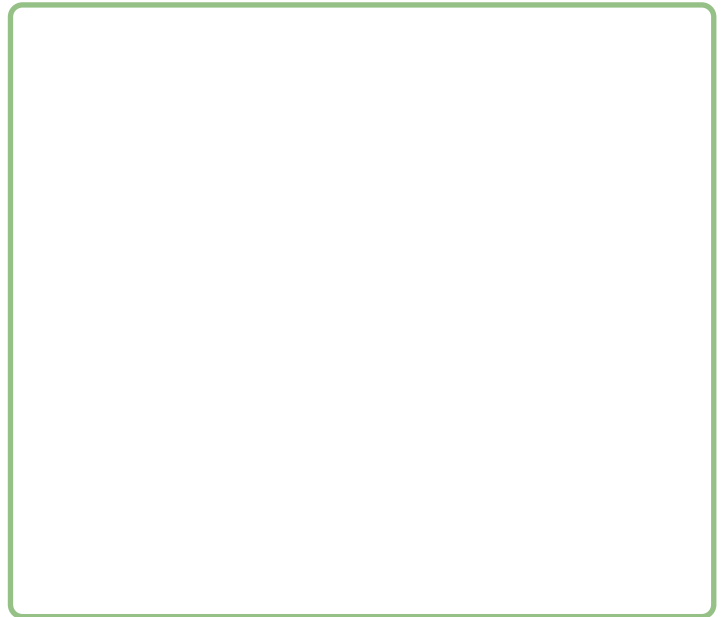


1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

THE CAVERN



1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

NAME: _____

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Readers help to make sense of books by noticing how the stories connect to other books they've read, experiences they've had, or similar things happening in the real world. Think carefully about *Honey, the Dog Who Saved Abe Lincoln* and the connections you can make between the book and yourself, other things you've read, and the larger world. Record your connections below in short sentences and/or pictures.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.9; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.9; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.9; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.9

Text to Self

Connections you can make between the story and your own life experiences

Text to Text

Connections you can make between the story and other things that you have read

Text to World

Broader connections you can make to something you have learned from television, movies, newspapers, or magazines

NAME: _____

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

Number the following story events in the order in which they happened in *Honey, the Dog Who Saved Abe Lincoln*.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.2; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.2; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.2; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.2

The townsfolk followed behind Honey with their torches as Honey headed back into the woods in search of Abe.

When he was exploring in the woods, Abe freed a frog from the mouth of a snake.

Abe became stuck between two boulders when he was exploring a dark cavern.

Abe's mother couldn't say no to Abe when he brought Honey home and asked if he could keep the dog.

Mr. John had to really tug on Abe to free him from where he was stuck in the cavern.

Abe finds an injured dog in the woods and discovers that the dog's leg is broken. Abe makes a splint for the dog from branches and leather from his belt.

Abe is late to pick up the sack of ground corn from Mr. John's mill because he saved a frog.



Answers: 6, 1, 5, 4, 7, 3, 2