

## Harriet Tubman

**Reading Passage** 

Name:

Date:

Harriet Tubman was a brave woman who helped many people find freedom. She was born in the early 1820s in Maryland. Harriet was born into slavery, which means she had to work very hard without getting paid. Her real name was Araminta Ross, but she changed it to Harriet Tubman later in life.

When Harriet was a young girl, she worked on a plantation. Life was very hard for her. She had to do many difficult chores like cooking, cleaning, and picking crops. She was often treated very unfairly and punished for things that were not her fault. Despite these hardships, Harriet was strong and determined.



As Harriet grew older, she wanted to be free. She decided to escape from the plantation. One night, she left and began a long journey north. It was very dangerous because if she was caught, she would be punished severely. But Harriet was brave and clever. She traveled through the woods, crossed rivers, and hid from people who were looking for her.

After a long and difficult journey, Harriet made it to the North and found freedom. But she did not stop there. Harriet wanted to help others who were still enslaved. She became a conductor on the Underground Railroad. The Underground Railroad was not a real railroad, but a secret network of safe houses and people who helped slaves escape to freedom.

Harriet made many trips back to the South to help others escape. She used secret codes and signals to communicate with other conductors and escaped slaves. She led more than 300 people to freedom and never lost a single passenger. Her bravery and intelligence were incredible.

Harriet Tubman's work did not end with the Underground Railroad. During the Civil War, she worked as a nurse, cook, and even a spy for the Union Army. She helped many soldiers and continued to fight for freedom and justice.



After the war, Harriet continued to help others. She opened a home for elderly African Americans who had nowhere else to go. She spent the rest of her life fighting for equality and helping those in need. Harriet Tubman is remembered as a hero who showed incredible courage and kindness.



## Harriet Tubman **Comprehension Questions**

Name:

Date:

Circle the correct answer.

- I. What was Harriet Tubman's original name?
  - a. Harriet Ross
  - b. Araminta Ross
  - c. Harriet Smith
  - d. Araminta Tubman



2. What did Harriet Tubman do during the Civil War?

- a. She was a soldier.
- b. She worked as a nurse, cook, and spy.
- c. She helped people go north to safety on the underground railroad.
- d. She picked crops.

What I learned:	
Describe the Underground Railroad.	Ortu
What would have happened to Harriet if she had been caught escaping?	
Circle the correct answer	

- I. Harriet Tubman led more than 400 people to freedom and never lost a passenger.
  - a. True
  - b. False

- 2. The underground railroad was made up of train cars that ran on underground tracks.
  - a. True
  - b. False



## Harriet Tubman Comprehension Questions

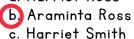
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d. Araminta Tubman



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