

Sub Plans

ELA Nonfiction

“Lincoln’s Many Hats”

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Teacher Notes

About the Resource

These ready-to-use sub plans dive deep into Abraham Lincoln's multifaceted life, exploring the various roles he played before ascending to the presidency. Packed with rich vocabulary and thought-provoking content, the included text showcases pieces from the renowned Lincoln Collection.

Students will enjoy engaging in a variety of activities designed to spark their creativity, sharpen their critical thinking skills, and foster a profound understanding of Lincoln's life and its impact. Mix and match activities to meet the individual needs and interests of your class! Digital options are also available for.

What's Included

- "Lincoln's Many Hats" Text: Empowers students to delve into Lincoln's multifaceted life.
- Comprehension Questions: Assesses students' grasp of the text and its key details.
- Constructed Response Prompt: Challenges students to synthesize information, showcasing their critical thinking and writing skills.
- Cut & Paste Summarizing Activity: Encourages students to evaluate statements and identify the article's core ideas.
- Vocabulary Models: Facilitate vocabulary development and conceptual understanding.
- Writing Prompt: Inspires students to develop their writing skills, creativity, and understanding of the topic by finishing a story prompt aligned with ILEARN.
- Word Search: Reinforces spelling and recall of important terms through a fun word search.
- Art Project: Expresses understanding creatively and visually through an art project based on their learning.

Digital Links

- Sub Directions
- Student Directions
- "Lincoln's Many Hats" text
- Comprehension Questions
 - PDF
 - Student Kami File
- Constructed Response
 - PDF
 - Student Kami File
- Google Form with Comprehension Questions and Constructed Response
- Summarizing Cut & Paste Activity
- Summarizing Google Slides Drag & Drop
- Vocabulary
 - PDF
 - Student Kami File

Digital Links

- Writing Prompt
 - PDF
 - Kami
 - Google Form
- Word Search
 - PDF
 - Student Kami File
- Art Activity

Substitute Teacher Directions

English Language Arts

Students will be reading a nonfiction article and completing several activities that correspond with that text.

Students will complete the reading:

- Independently
- With their designated reading partner
- Silently as you read aloud

Each student should receive the items checked below:

- Student Checklist
- “Lincoln’s Many Hats” Article
- Comprehension Questions
- Constructed Response
- Summarizing Cut and Paste Activity
- Vocabulary Activity
- Finish the Story Writing Assignment
- Word Search
- Art Activity

Substitute Teacher Directions

English Language Arts

Getting Started

- Read the introduction below to students:

Today, we're going to dive into the life of Abraham Lincoln, our sixteenth President. Did you know that before he became President, Lincoln had many different jobs? The article you will read is called "Lincoln's Many Hats." The phrase "wearing many hats" is figurative language that means to have many different jobs or roles. As you explore all of the different hats that Lincoln wore, ask yourself, "What does the author want me to understand about Lincoln's many hats?" Don't forget to look for repeated words and phrases that might give you clues.

- Go over the vocabulary below with students:
 - *Captivating: extremely interesting*
 - *Perilous: full of danger or risk*
 - *Wielded: to hold and use a tool*
 - *Venture: a risky project with an unknown outcome*
 - *Keen Eye: a sharp and accurate ability to notice and understand details*
- Review instructions for activities checked on page one.

Substitute Teacher Directions

English Language Arts

Worktime Directions:

- Students will read the article.
- Students will complete the activities checked on page one.
- While students are working, circulate the room and use the provided answer keys to answer any questions.

Early Finishers:

- Read a book
- If certain activities on page one were made optional, students could complete them now.
- _____
- _____

Substitute Teacher Directions

English Language Arts

- The following students will require extra support with reading:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

- The following students may require extra redirection:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Student Directions

Before Reading

Today, we're going to dive into the life of Abraham Lincoln, our sixteenth President. Did you know that before he became President, Lincoln had many different jobs? The article you will read is called "Lincoln's Many Hats." The phrase "wearing many hats" is figurative language that means to have many different jobs or roles.

During Reading

As you explore all of the different hats that Lincoln wore, ask yourself, "What does the author want me to understand about Lincoln's many hats?" Don't forget to look for repeated words and phrases that might give you clues. In addition, see if you can find the vocabulary words listed below!

- Captivating: extremely interesting
- Perilous: full of danger or risk
- Wielded: to hold and use a tool
- Venture: a risky project with an unknown outcome
- Keen Eye: a sharp and accurate ability to notice and understand details

Student Checklist

Complete the checklist of items below. Cross out any items that your teacher tells you to skip.

- Read “Lincoln’s Many Hats” text.
- Answer the comprehension questions.
- Complete the constructed response.
- Complete the summarizing cut and paste activity.
- Fill out the vocabulary sheets.
- Finish the story writing assignment.
- Do the word search.
- Complete the art activity.



Lincoln's Many Hats

An Unlikely Path to the White House

More than a President

We all know Abraham Lincoln as the towering figure in the tall, black hat. President Lincoln was one of our country's strongest leaders, guiding the nation through its darkest hours. But before he became the President, Lincoln was a man of multiple careers, wearing many different hats.

From the untamed outdoors to the busy world of politics, Lincoln's journey was anything but ordinary. Imagine him as a muscular boatman, battling river currents and thieves alike. Or picture the future president as a postmaster, braving winter storms to deliver mail. These were just a few of the many roles he played before being elected to the highest office in the United States.

Lincoln's varied experiences included everything from chopping wood and running a store to surveying land and serving as a state legislator. His talent for problem-solving even led him to becoming an inventor! It's a captivating journey that shows us the life of an extraordinary man who would eventually become one of America's greatest presidents.

Boatman

At nineteen, Lincoln set off on a perilous journey down the mighty Ohio River. With a friend as his partner, he guided a flatboat weighed down with goods from Indiana to the faraway state of Louisiana. This was

an incredibly challenging task: they had to navigate dangerous river waters, defend their cargo from attacks by thieves, and skillfully avoid collisions with large ships. This demanding adventure tested Lincoln's strength and courage, helping him to develop character that he would need to face the hardships that lay ahead.



Lincoln fights the currents as a boatman



Lincoln wields his mighty ax

Railsplitter

When Lincoln was twenty-one years old, he and his family moved from Indiana's frontier to Illinois. Shoulder to shoulder with his father, Lincoln wielded an ax with powerful force, felling towering trees that would become the walls of their family cabin. The remaining logs were split into sturdy rails and used for building fences. Later, during his presidential campaign, people called Lincoln "The Railsplitter" to show how strong and hard-working he was, and to remind everyone that he had worked his way up from a poor farm boy to become the president of the United States.



The Lincoln Loop

Shopkeeper

The following year, Lincoln swapped his ax for an apron, trading the rough life of a farmer for the bustling world of business. He landed a job behind the counter of a brand-new store, where he quickly proved himself to be a trustworthy worker. Lincoln loved the store and dreamed of owning his own shop. With his friend William Berry, he took a leap of faith and bought one of the general stores nearby. Business was booming at first, but tough times hit the town, and their store started to struggle. Lincoln decided to cut his losses and sell his share of the business to Berry. But fate dealt another cruel blow when Berry passed away, leaving Lincoln to take care of the mess left from their failed venture. Instead of running away from his problems, he made a tough choice: to work tirelessly until every last penny was paid back. This showed everyone just how honest and determined he was, earning him the nickname "Honest Abe," a name that would stick with him for the rest of his life.



The Lincoln-Berry Store

Glossary

Captivating: extremely interesting

Perilous: full of danger or risk

Wielded: to hold and use a tool

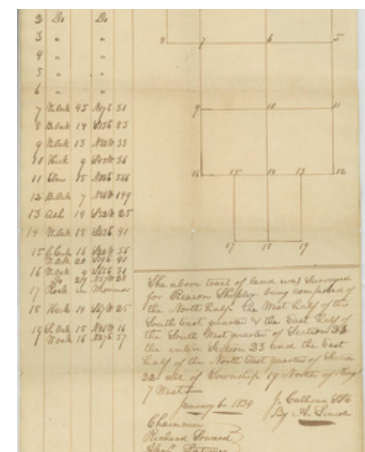
Venture: a risky project with an unknown outcome

Keen eye: a sharp and accurate ability to notice and understand details.

Surveyor

Lincoln's next occupation took him out of town and into the wilderness. He became a surveyor's assistant, a role that demanded a keen eye for detail and strong math skills. Even though he had only attended school for less than a year, Lincoln was determined to succeed and dove into the world of geometry and trigonometry (advanced types of math). He spent countless hours measuring and mapping the untamed Illinois landscape. Surveying new towns, roads, and farms, Lincoln

developed problem-solving abilities that would someday help him tackle some of the country's toughest issues.



Survey Measurements Taken by Lincoln



The Lincoln Loop

Legal Career

Abraham Lincoln's legal career was the foundation for his future leadership. Without formal training, he devoured law books and transformed himself into a gifted courtroom lawyer. Over two decades, he argued thousands of cases, sharpening his problem solving skills, his speaking ability, and his knowledge of the law. He also served as an Illinois legislator, gaining political experience and building important connections. Little did he know that these skills and relationships would lead him to the presidency. He also applied his legal experience when he wrote the Emancipation Proclamation, a key document that freed millions of slaves and changed the course of American history forever.

President in the Making

From humble beginnings as a young rail-splitter to a distinguished lawyer, and ultimately, the leader of a nation, Abraham Lincoln's many careers all led to his success. Each job, whether it was building cabins, running a store, or arguing in court, came with unique obstacles and successes. Lincoln met a variety of people throughout these roles, allowing him to hear and develop a respect for differing viewpoints. It's fascinating to see how wearing all of these hats, each with its own unique hardships and victories, helped Lincoln develop the extraordinary skills necessary to lead the nation through the Civil War.

Lincoln's Signature Style

Did you know that President Lincoln was super tall? He was as tall as Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson! Can you imagine how much taller he looked when he wore one of his famous hats?

Lincoln's hats were seven to eight inches tall! They looked like tall chimneys, so people called them "stovepipe" hats. Even though Lincoln's wife Mary hated his hats, Lincoln wore them all throughout his presidency.



Lincoln's hat might have even saved his life once! During an attack, someone tried to harm him, but they hit his hat instead of his head!

Lincoln also used his hat as a special briefcase. He tucked all kinds of important papers in there!

Lincoln wore his last hat on the night that he was assassinated. The hat was rescued from the theater where he was attacked and kept safe. It is now on display in the Smithsonian Institute, a special museum.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Comprehension

Use "Lincoln's Many Hats" to answer the questions below.

What business did Lincoln run with his friend?

Which job did Lincoln do for over twenty years?

Which two careers required Lincoln to do a lot of studying on his own?

Where is Lincoln's famous stovepipe hat currently located?

Which of Lincoln's careers do you think you'd like to try? Why?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Comprehension

Use "Lincoln's Many Hats" to answer the questions below.

The following question has two parts.

Part A:

According to the text, how did Lincoln's early experiences as a surveyor contribute to his later success as a leader? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. His work as a surveyor taught him the importance of compromise and negotiation.
- B. His experience as a surveyor helped him develop strong critical thinking skills.
- C. His time as a surveyor made him more determined to achieve his goals.
- D. His work as a surveyor taught him the value of hard work and perseverance.

Part B:

Which piece of evidence below BEST supports your answer to Part A?

- A. He became a surveyor's assistant, a role that demanded a keen eye for detail and strong math skills
- B. Even though he had only attended school for less than a year, Lincoln was determined to succeed and dove into the world of geometry and trigonometry.
- C. He spent countless hours measuring and mapping the untamed Illinois landscape.
- D. Surveying new towns, roads, and farms, Lincoln developed problem-solving abilities that would someday help him tackle some of the country's toughest issues.

Based on the description of Lincoln's boatman journey, what can be inferred about his character?

- A. He was afraid of danger and preferred a safer lifestyle.
- B. He was a natural leader who could inspire others.
- C. He was resourceful and could come up with solutions to challenging situations.
- D. He was easily discouraged by setbacks.

Reading Comprehension

Answer Key

What business did Lincoln run with his friend?

A general store

Which job did Lincoln do for over twenty years?

Lawyer

Which two careers required Lincoln to do a lot of studying on his own?

Surveyor & Lawyer

Where is Lincoln's famous stovepipe hat currently located?

The Smithsonian

Which of Lincoln's careers do you think you'd like to try? Why?

Answers will vary.

Reading Comprehension

Answer Key

The following question has two parts.

Part A:

According to the text, how did Lincoln's early experiences as a surveyor contribute to his later success as a leader? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. His work as a surveyor taught him the importance of compromise and negotiation.
- B. His experience as a surveyor helped him develop strong critical thinking skills.
- C. His time as a surveyor made him more determined to achieve his goals.
- D. His work as a surveyor taught him the value of hard work and perseverance.

Part B:

Which piece of evidence below BEST supports your answer to Part A?

- A. He became a surveyor's assistant, a role that demanded a keen eye for detail and strong math skills
- B. Even though he had only attended school for less than a year, Lincoln was determined to succeed and dove into the world of geometry and trigonometry.
- C. He spent countless hours measuring and mapping the untamed Illinois landscape.
- D. Surveying new towns, roads, and farms, Lincoln developed problem-solving abilities that would someday help him tackle some of the country's toughest issues.

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- C. He was resourceful and could come up with solutions to challenging situations.
- D. He was easily discouraged by setbacks.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Constructed Response

Use "Lincoln's Many Hats" to answer the question below.

What is the main idea of "Lincoln's Many Hats"? Support your answer using evidence from the text.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Constructed Response

Exemplar Answer

What is the main idea of “Lincoln’s Many Hats”? Support your answer using evidence from the text.

The main idea of “Lincoln’s Many Hats” is that Abraham Lincoln’s various career experiences all played a part in helping him become a successful President. For example, the text tells us that Lincoln’s job as a boatman helped him develop the strength and courage that he would need for the Presidency. Another example is that Lincoln’s job as a surveyor helped him develop needed problem-solving skills. The text also says, “It’s fascinating to see how wearing all of these hats, each with its own unique hardships and victories, helped Lincoln develop the extraordinary skills necessary to lead the nation through the Civil War.” All of this evidence shows that the main idea is that Abraham Lincoln’s jobs all helped to prepare him to lead the country.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Summarizing

Carefully cut out the statements below. Read each one and decide if it belongs in a summary of "Lincoln's Many Hats." Paste each statement into the correct box. Remember, a good summary tells the main ideas of an article without adding extra details that aren't important.

Belongs in a summary of the text.	Does NOT belong in a summary of the text.



Abraham Lincoln explored various careers before becoming president.	Lincoln's impressive legal career took him into the courtroom more than 5,000 times.
Lincoln's experiences, including those as a shopkeeper, a doctor, and a teacher, all helped prepare him for the Presidency.	Lincoln's experiences in different fields helped him understand the needs of various people.
Lincoln wrote the Emancipation Proclamation, a document that freed many enslaved people.	Each of Lincoln's jobs taught him valuable lessons that he would need in the White House.
Abraham Lincoln was an extraordinary man whose career journey led him to become one of America's greatest Presidents.	Lincoln was a skilled public speaker, giving many speeches that had a massive effect on those who heard them..

Name: _____

Date: _____

Summarizing

Answer Key

Belongs in a summary of the text.	Does <u>NOT</u> belong in a summary of the text.
<p>Abraham Lincoln explored various careers before becoming president.</p> <p>Lincoln's experiences in different fields helped him understand the needs of various people.</p> <p>Each of Lincoln's jobs taught him valuable lessons that he would need in the White House.</p> <p>Abraham Lincoln was an extraordinary man whose career journey led him to become one of America's greatest Presidents.</p>	<p>Lincoln's experiences, including those as a shopkeeper, a doctor, and a teacher, all helped prepare him for the Presidency.</p> <p>Lincoln wrote the Emancipation Proclamation, a document that freed many enslaved people.</p> <p>Lincoln's impressive legal career took him into the courtroom more than 5,000 times.</p> <p>Lincoln was a skilled public speaker, giving many speeches that had a massive effect on those who heard them.</p>

Rationale


- **Belongs in a summary:** each of these statements reveal the main idea of the text--that Lincoln's diverse career experiences contributed significantly to his presidential success
- **Does not Belong**
 - 1: contains false information
 - 2-4: supporting details that are not big ideas of the text


Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary

Complete the charts below using the words from 'Lincoln's Many Hats.' Think of a synonym and antonym for each word. Once you're finished, color the illustration.

Definition		Antonym	
_____		_____	
	Captivating		
Synonym		Illustration	

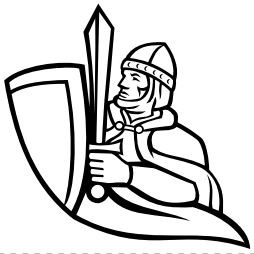
Definition		Antonym	
_____		_____	
	Perilous		
Synonym		Illustration	


Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary

Complete the charts below using the words from 'Lincoln's Many Hats.' Think of a synonym and antonym for each word. Once you're finished, color the illustration.

Definition		Antonym	
_____		_____	
	Wielded		
Synonym		Illustration	
_____			

Definition		Antonym	
_____		_____	
	Venture		
Synonym		Illustration	
_____			


Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary

Complete the charts below using the words from 'Lincoln's Many Hats.' Think of a synonym and antonym for each word. Once you're finished, color the illustration.

Definition	Keen Eye	Antonym
_____		_____

Synonym	Keen Eye	Illustration
_____		

Use words from the word bank to fill in the blanks below.

Captivating Perilous Wielded Venture Keen Eye

- The chess player, with a _____, predicted the opponent's next move.
- Jordan knew that quitting college to become a content creator was a risky _____.
- _____ as the story was, I couldn't help but think about how all I wanted to do was leave.
- The migrating wildebeest faced a _____ journey across the crocodile-infested river.
- The chef _____ the sharp knife with skill, slicing the vegetables into perfect pieces.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary

Sample Answers
Actual Answers May Vary

Definition

Extremely interesting

Antonym

Boring

Captivating

Synonym

Fascinating

Illustration



Definition

Full of danger or risk

Antonym

Safe

Perilous

Synonym

Hazardous

Illustration

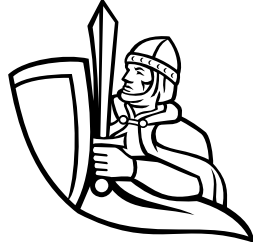



Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary

Complete the charts below using the words from 'Lincoln's Many Hats.' Think of a synonym and antonym for each word. Once you're finished, color the illustration.

Definition	To hold and use a tool	Antonym	Unused
Synonym	Handled	Illustration	
Wielded			


Definition	a risky project with an unknown outcome	Antonym	Guarantee
Synonym	Gamble	Illustration	
Venture			

Name: _____

Date: _____

Vocabulary

Complete the charts below using the words from 'Lincoln's Many Hats.' Think of a synonym and antonym for each word. Once you're finished, color the illustration.

Definition	Antonym
A sharp and accurate ability to notice and understand details	Oblivious
Keen Eye	
Synonym	Illustration
Observant	

Use words from the word bank to fill in the blanks below.

perilous ventured captivated keen eye

- The chess player, with a keen eye for strategy, predicted the opponent's next move.
- Jordan knew that quitting college to become a content creator was a risky venture.
- Captivating as the story was, I couldn't help but think about how all I wanted to do was leave.
- The migrating wildebeest faced a perilous journey across the crocodile-infested river.
- The chef wielded the sharp knife with skill, slicing the vegetables into perfect pieces.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Finish the Story: Lincoln's First Day

Read the story below. Then, finish the story. Remember that the story is from young Abraham Lincoln's point of view.

The morning sun streamed through the dusty windows of my new store, casting long shadows across the shelves filled with goods. As the first customers trickled in, I felt a mix of excitement and apprehension. I had dreamed of owning my own shop for years, and now that dream was a reality. But with the responsibility of running a business came a sense of unease.

As the day wore on, I realized that managing a store was not as easy as I had imagined. Customers were demanding, the inventory was dwindling, and the bills were piling up. Just as I was starting to feel overwhelmed, a mysterious stranger walked into the store. The stranger was dressed in a long, flowing coat and wore a wide-brimmed hat that cast a shadow over his face. He approached me and said, "I have something to offer you that could change your life forever."

Name: _____

Date: _____

A large rectangular area with a dotted border, containing 12 horizontal solid lines for writing.

Click here to view the
Smarter Balance
Narrative Writing
Rubric to guide scoring
of this item.

Lincoln's Many Hats

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

STOVEPIPE
BOATMAN
KEEN EYE
LEGAL
SUCCESS
LAWYER
LINCOLN

LEGISLATOR
HATS
CAREERS
SURVEYOR
RAILSPLITTER
WIELDED

SHOPKEEPER
POSTMASTER
PERILOUS
CHALLENGES
VENTURE
PRESIDENT

Lincoln's Many Hats Answer Key

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

STOVEPIPE
BOATMAN
KEEN EYE
LEGAL
SUCCESS
LAWYER
LINCOLN

LEGISLATOR
HATS
CAREERS
SURVEYOR
RAILSPLITTER
WIELDED

SHOPKEEPER
POSTMASTER
PERILOUS
CHALLENGES
VENTURE
PRESIDENT

Name: _____

Date: _____

“Lincoln’s Many Hats” Art Project

Directions

You’ve been given a partial illustration of Lincoln. Your task is to finish the illustration, displaying one of the occupations discussed in today’s reading.

Step 1: Choose one of Abraham Lincoln’s jobs from the article “Lincoln’s Many Hats.”

Step 2: On the back side of this page, draw Lincoln’s body below his head, posing in a way that reflects his occupation. For example, as a railsplitter, Lincoln would be chopping wood with his ax.

Step 3: Draw scenery that matches the job you chose.

Tip: Use a pencil to sketch the project before adding color.

