

Name

Harriet Tubman

Harriet Tubman was born as a slave on a plantation in Maryland around 1820. Life as a slave was very difficult. When she was only 6 years old, she was loaned to another family to take care of their baby. She had many different jobs as a slave and was treated very poorly. Harriet had many manual labor jobs such as plowing fields, hauling logs, and driving oxen.

In 1849, Harriet decided she was going to escape. She used the Underground Railroad and made it to Pennsylvania. In 1850, the Fugitive Slave Act was passed, which made it even more difficult for slaves to escape. To be free, they had to make it all the way to Canada. Harriet decided that she wanted to help her family and others escape to freedom. She became a conductor on the Underground Railroad. She became known as Moses because she led her people to freedom. She helped over 300 slaves escape to freedom over several different trips. She was never caught and never lost a slave.

During the Civil War, Harriet helped nurse the injured soldiers. She also served as a spy for the North. During this time, she helped a military campaign rescue over 750 slaves. After the war, Harriet continued helping others. She helped the poor and sick. She also spoke out for equal rights for women and African Americans.

Highlight the text to prove your answers.

1. Why did the southerners want Harriet Tubman caught?

Southerners wanted Harriet Tubman caught because she was a spy for the North, and she was very successful in helping many slaves escape.

2. What do you think was Harriet Tubman's greatest achievement?

Why? Harriet Tubman's greatest achievement was being brave enough to help hundreds of slaves escape to freedom. She led slaves from southern states all the way to Canada.

3. Do you agree with Harriet Tubman? Would you have helped slaves escape if you were able? Why or Why not?

I do agree with Harriet Tubman, and I would have helped slaves escape if I could. Life as a slave was cruel, unfair, and difficult. Slaves were treated very poorly, and no one should own another person. I admire Harriet Tubman's courage and determination.