



FROM THE NATIONAL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD FREEDOM CENTER

The Underground Railroad is a special moment in the history of the United States. It was one of the earliest times when people from different races, religious backgrounds, economic levels, and geographic regions found common ground. They were all inspired by words such as Liberty, Equality, and Freedom in documents like the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. They believed these rights should apply to everyone, not just a favored few. This is why enslaved African Americans made the decision to escape in search of a better life and freedom. It is also why others put themselves at risk to aid runaways.

The story of the people involved in the Underground Railroad is important to know. They offer us examples of individuals whose actions made a difference for themselves and for others. The routes people followed, the places where they were hidden, the cooperation between the people involved are all important lessons. They illustrate for us the power of the human spirit and the strength that comes from strong beliefs. The Underground Railroad movement you will learn more about in this book and the people who made it work are well worth remembering. They remind us that perseverance along with the right support can change the lives of people and the world in which they live.

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