

# Abe's Honest Words



Author:  
**Doreen Rappaport**

Illustrator:  
**Kadir Nelson**

## Awards

Junior Library Guild Selections, Biography Selection, 2015  
Capital Choices, 100 Best of the Year  
Chicago Public Library, Best of Best Books  
Children's Choice, Intermediate Level, Keystone Reading Book Award  
CCBC Choices, Best of the Year  
The Monarch Awards: Illinois' Children's Choice Award Masterlist  
NY Public Library, 100 Titles to Read and Share  
Teachers' Choices, IRA  
Library of Virginia Whitney and Scott Cardoza Award

## Vocabulary

liberty, proclamation, healing

## Reviews

[Kirkus Reviews](#)

## Summary

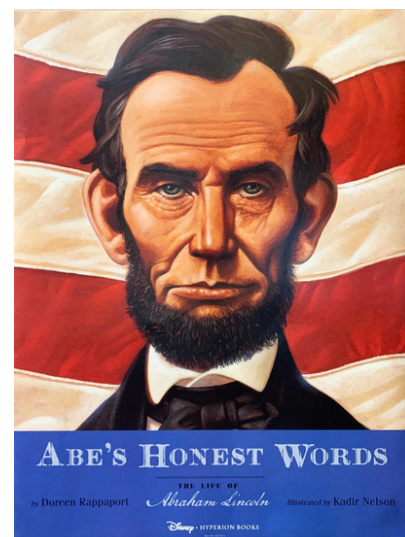
This vibrantly illustrated picture book biography depicts how Abraham Lincoln's courage, honesty, and dedication to freedom helped bring an end to the great evil of slavery in America.

## FAIR Standard

DV.3-5.8 I can discuss specific people from history who drew power from their humanity, culture, and American ideals to fight racism and intolerance.

## Discussion

1. Abe Lincoln said, "Resolve to be honest at all events." He later issued the Emancipation Proclamation which freed over three million people. How did Abe use honesty to bring freedom to the nation?

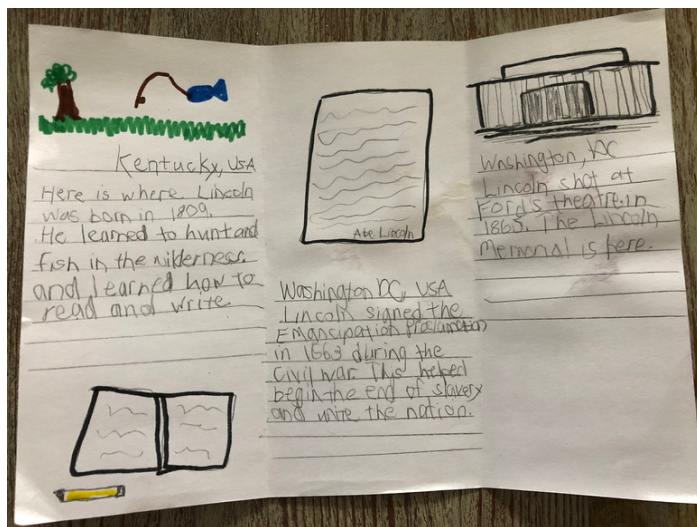


## Discussion

2. Look at how the illustrator painted Abe's face on page 7. How do you think he is feeling at this moment as he sees people being treated so differently on either side of him?
  3. What character strengths were most important to Abe as he worked to become a lawmaker and then politician? Which of his words or actions demonstrate this?
  4. The author wrote: "Lincoln reminded Americans that they were one people." How did Abe do this? What ideas did he offer as common ground?
  5. Why did the author include Abraham Lincoln's own words? Which of his words do you feel most strongly about? Why?
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## Activities

1. The illustrator, Kadir Nelson, writes about his travels all over the country to visit landmarks from Abraham Lincoln's life. Create a brochure of 3-5 locations mentioned on the "Important Dates" page at the end of the book, writing 1-2 sentences to explain where each location is and why it is an important place from Abraham Lincoln's life.



2. The last page of this book has a quote from Abraham Lincoln that says, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." Create a picture or mural to represent this powerful quote.
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## Additional Resources

[Author Website](#)