Resources Created for Lesson Plan One:

- Agree/Disagree sheet
- Agree/Disagree statements
- “Abraham Lincoln and Animals” story
- “Abraham Lincoln-Great Learner/Great Leader” story
- Gettysburg Address
- Abraham Lincoln song lyrics
- On-demand writing prompt
- Quotations by Abraham Lincoln
- Website resources
- Stovepipe Hat organizer
- Student Activities
  - True/False Trivia Quiz (with answers)
  - Word search
  - Coloring page
  - Facts about Lincoln Crossword Puzzle (with answers)
A G R E E

D I S A G R E E
AGREE/DISAGREE STATEMENTS ABOUT ABRAHAM LINCOLN
(for fun and student engagement)

(Teacher reads statements. Students react by holding up Agree/Disagree Card.)

(NOTE FOR TEACHER: ALL STATEMENTS ARE TRUE!)

1. At 6’ 4” tall, Abraham Lincoln was the tallest President.

2. Abraham Lincoln loved to tell jokes.

3. Some people did not think Lincoln was a handsome man. When a little girl named Grace Bedell wrote him a letter saying he should grow a beard . . . he did.

4. Abraham Lincoln’s wife, Mary Todd, was from Kentucky.

5. He ran for political office ten times and won all but two elections.

6. Abraham Lincoln was often called “Honest Abe.”

7. He was a talented and capable wrestler.

8. He avoided hunting and fishing because he did not like killing animals—even for food.

9. Abraham Lincoln spent so much time reading that his neighbors suspected he was avoiding work.

10. As a young boy, he was saved from drowning by a childhood friend.

11. During his life he had many roles besides being President of the United States. He was a military captain, a storekeeper, a surveyor, a postmaster, a surveyor, a husband, and father of four sons.

12. Abraham Lincoln became president without graduating from high school or attending college.
ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND ANIMALS

Did you know . . . . . . .

Legends say that while living at Knob Creek, Kentucky, young Abraham Lincoln found a dog with a broken leg. He made a splint and took care of the dog, naming it “Honey.” According to his childhood friend Austin Gollaher, Abraham also had a pet crow, raccoon, and a goat named “Billy.” (From Resource Guide Material: Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site)

Mr. Lincoln’s step-mother recalled that he loved animals and children very much. He was even compassionate to insects. (Sarah Bush Lincoln’s interview with William H. Herndon) As a young boy he preached his own sermons to his family declaring that he was against cruelty to animals. His step-sister remembered him saying that an ant’s life was to it, as sweet as ours. (Richard N. Current in The Lincoln Nobody Knows)

His long-time friend from Kentucky, Joshua Speed, told about a trip he took with Mr. Lincoln and two other gentlemen in 1839 back to Springfield, Illinois. While riding along a country road through a thicket of wild plum and crabapple trees, the group had stopped to water their horses. A severe storm had occurred previously. Mr. Lincoln disappeared for a while. He caught two little birds in his hand which had been blown from their nest and was hunting for the nest. He finally found the nest and placed the birds back within it. The three other travelers laughed at him, but he earnestly said that he could not have slept that night if he had not given the two little birds to their mother. (Kenneth A. Bernard, Glimpses of Lincoln in the White House)

As President, Mr. Lincoln continued to be fond of animals including cats, dogs, and at least two goats named Nanny and Nanko. The goats were favorites of Mr. Lincoln’s younger sons, Tad and Willie, and they sometimes slept in the upstairs bedroom! Tad once scattered a group of White House visitors by driving a goat-pulled chair through the regal East Room and yelling, “Get out of the way there!” (a memory recalled by Treasury official Maunsell B. Field in Personal Recollections: Memories of Many Men and Some Women)

The two goats knew the sound of President’s Lincoln’s voice, and they would come to his side when he called. Mrs. Lincoln’s seamstress, Elizabeth Keckley, recalled that on warm, bright days Mr. Lincoln and Tad would sometimes play in the White House yard with the goats for an hour at a time. He remarked to the seamstress that he believed his goats were the kindest and best goats in the world.

Tad took to heart unlucky animals (like his father did for unfortunate human beings) and often protected them. Jack the Turkey found a way to Tad’s heart before he became food for his stomach. On Christmas Eve, 1863, President Lincoln reasoned with Tad that the
turkey was sent to the White House to be killed and eaten during Christmas. Tad interceded for the turkey to his father arguing that the turkey had as good a right to live as anybody else. His plea was accepted by the President, and Jack the Turkey’s life was spared. Soldiers on duty around the White House made a pet of the bird. (recorded in *Lincoln Observed: Civil War Dispatches of Noah Brooks* edited by Michael Burlington)

President Lincoln had a horse named Old Bob which was in the President’s funeral procession on May 4, 1865. Old Bob was draped in black with reversed boots at his side in tribute to the President.

(from Resource Material Guide: Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site)
Abraham Lincoln: Great Learner and Great Leader

Abraham Lincoln is remembered as one of our country’s greatest leaders. We remember him for the important things he did as President. He led our country through a difficult war, the American Civil War. He signed the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed enslaved people in the rebelling states.

We also remember him as one of our country’s greatest learners. Lincoln was born in a one room log cabin in the woods of Kentucky. Through his own hard work and determination as a learner, he grew up to be one of our country’s greatest leaders. When he signed the Emancipation Proclamation, Lincoln wanted to make sure that all Americans would be free to achieve great things as he had.

Abraham the Learner

In Kentucky, Abraham Lincoln went to school for the very first time. Most of the year, Abraham was too busy helping with chores on the farm to go to school as much as children do today. During a few months in the winter, Abraham and his sister Sarah learned basic reading, writing and ciphering to the rule of three. His first school was called a “blab school” and it was very different from today’s schools. Instead of writing down what they had learned, they “blabbed” their lessons out loud all at the same time! Abraham loved going to school and wished he could spend more time learning and less time doing chores on the farm.

When Abraham was seven years old his family packed up and moved to the new frontier of Indiana. Two years after the Lincoln family settled in Indiana, Abraham’s mother Nancy died from a illness called milk sickness. Abraham was only nine years old.

After his mother’s death, his father went back to Kentucky to find a new wife. To Abraham’s delight, his new step-mother, Sarah Bush Johnston, brought with her a collection of books. Once he finished reading his step-mother’s books, he would walk miles to borrow more. He stayed up late at night to read them after he finished his chores.

In Indiana Abraham spent his time writing and doing arithmetic between chores. Sometimes he was known to stuff a book into his shirt before going to work in the field. He read all kinds of books: great stories, biographies, and the family Bible. He learned about the founding of our country by reading the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. The more he read, the more Abraham learned how powerful words could be.

When Abraham was grown, his family moved to Illinois. After he helped his family settle in, he set out on his own. He worked at several different jobs over the years. He was a boatman, postmaster, storekeeper, land surveyor and soldier. Abraham never forgot the power of words. He began to study law, because he understood that words could mean the difference between putting a man in jail and setting him free. It was then that
Abraham Lincoln the great learner began to develop into Abraham Lincoln the great leader.

**Abraham the Leader**

As a leader, Lincoln believed in uniting our country and keeping the states together. After practicing law for a while, Abraham began to take an interest in politics. The Northern and Southern states were becoming more and more divided about the best way to run our country. One of the key issues was slavery. Abraham was opposed to slavery. He was elected as a United States congressman from Illinois. Many people looked up to Abraham because of his captivating way with words. All those years spent reading and memorizing passages gave Abraham the power to change the way people thought.

Finally, in 1860, Abraham Lincoln was elected President. As soon as he took office, he was faced with the greatest crisis in our country’s history: the American Civil War. The Southern States and the Northern States had finally become so divided that the South broke away from the North and formed a new country, the Confederate States of America. Lincoln believed that the North and South should stay together as one country. During the long hard war, Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing enslaved people in the rebelling states. Finally, Lincoln led the North to victory and brought our country back together again.

As a learner, Abraham Lincoln read about people like founding fathers standing by what they believed in and achieving great things. As a leader, Abraham Lincoln became one of those people. He believed so much in what the founding fathers had accomplished that he did everything in his power to make sure our country stayed together. Today we remember him as a great leader and a great learner who made sure that our country would always provide opportunities for future leaders and learners just like you.
References:


The Gettysburg Address
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
November 19, 1863

During a three-day Civil War battle at Gettysburg in early July 1863, there were over 23,000 Union casualties (including more than 3,000 deaths) and 28,000 Confederate casualties (including at least 4,000 deaths). A portion of the battlefield was dedicated as a National Soldiers’ Cemetery for the thousands of soldiers who had died.

Abraham Lincoln wrote and spoke the famous words known as the Gettysburg Address (below) at the ceremony on November 19, 1863. He was not the main speaker for the dedication. Edward Everett, a well-known orator, was the chief speaker and spoke for two hours. Lincoln’s speech consisted of 272 words, lasted 2 minutes, and became known as one of the greatest speeches ever made by an American president. Many young people were in the huge crowd that day. Henry Jacobs, who was standing in front of the speaker’s stand wrote the following about President Lincoln:

“At first his voice sounded a little strained and high-pitched, as if he were trying to throw his voice to the outer edge of the crowd. He held in his right hand the manuscript he had brought from the White House. He emphasized the words ’of,’ ’by,’ and ’for’ (the people) with a stiff yet sweeping bend of his body, holding the manuscript rigidly in both hands. Then he drew himself up to his immense height, with his arms outstretched, as he impressively uttered the final words, ’shall not-perish-from-the-earth.’”

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate -- we cannot consecrate -- we cannot hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.
References:
Source: *Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, edited by Roy P. Basler. The text above is from the so-called "Bliss Copy," one of several versions which Lincoln wrote, and believed to be the final version.
Abe Lincoln

(Lyrics to background song on slide show)

Words by Sam and Gary Francis
Music by Gary Francis

Born in a small log cabin . . . yet he grew up to be
Our country’s sixteenth president who served with dignity.
Had just one year of schooling . . . read books of every kind.
He studied by the fire light . . . developing his mind.

CHORUS:
Abe Lincoln, Abe Lincoln, is known in history . . .
As the President who worked real hard
To end the slavery.
Abe Lincoln, Abe Lincoln, brought peace and unity.
He showed us by example . . . the way we ought to be!

(Bridge):
A Nation divided until the war was done,
Abe put us back together all as one!

He had strong moral values . . . applied what he believed.
Gave credit to his mother for the things that he achieved.
Took good care of his body . . . was strong and very tall.
Abe stayed away from harmful things like drugs and alcohol.

CHORUS

(Tag)
He showed us by example the way we ought to be!
Situation: Abraham Lincoln is remembered as one of the greatest men of all
time. He overcame many difficulties and was a determined
learner. His powerful words led our country through its most
difficult time.

Task: Using information you learned in class about Abraham Lincoln,
write an article for the class newsletter to explain why learning
about Abraham Lincoln is important to your life. Articles will be
read by the writers to primary students.

As a ___________ I am writing a __________ to ___________ because
(role) (mode) (purpose)

(situation)

Example:
As a concerned citizen, I am writing a letter to the editor to voters
because I want them to vote for John Smith for Judge.

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Quotations by Abraham Lincoln

“When I read aloud two senses catch the idea; first, I see what I read; second, I hear it, and therefore I can remember it better.”
--Remark to William Herndon, who asked him, with annoyance, why he read aloud (no date)

“Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important that any other one thing.”
--Letter to Isham Reavis, November 5, 1855

“A capacity and taste for reading gives access to whatever has already been discovered by others. It is the key, or one of the keys, to the already solved problem. And not only so, it gives a relish and facility for successfully pursuing the yet unsolved ones.”
--Letter to John M. Brockman, September 25, 1860

“Herewith is a little sketch (of autobiography), as you requested. There is not much of it, for the reason, I suppose, that there is not much of me.”
--Letter to Jesse Fell, for an article in Chester (Pennsylvania)

“A house divided against itself cannot stand.
I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free.
I do not expect the Union to be dissolved--I do not expect the house to fall--but I do expect it will cease to be divided.
It will become all one thing, or all the other.
--Speech accepting the nomination for U. S. Senator, Republican State Convention, Springfield, Illinois, June 16, 1858

(NOTE: Kentucky students could compare the first part of the preceding quotation to their state motto.)

“I, too, am a Kentuckian.” (also pertinent to Kentucky students)—1861

“Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it.”
---Speech, Cooper Union Institute, New York City, February 27, 1860

“It is true that while I hold myself without mock modesty the humblest of all individuals that have ever been elevated to the Presidency, I have a more difficult task to perform than any one of them.”
---Speech to the New York State Legislature, February 18, 1861

“With malice toward none, with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in”
---Second Inaugural Address, Washington, D. C., March 4, 1865
References:


Maunsell B. Field, Maunsell B. *Personal Recollections: Memories of Many Men and Some Women* p. 313.


Wilson, Douglas L. and Davis, Rodney O., editors, *Herndon’s Informants: Letters, Interviews and Statements about Abraham Lincoln* (Sarah Bush Lincoln interview with William H. Herndon, September 8, 1865)

NOTE: References used for Reading: Abraham Lincoln: Great Learner and Great Leader, were previously listed on a page following the reading.
**Websites:**

Source: *Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, edited by Roy P. Basler. The text used is from the so-called "Bliss Copy," one of several versions which Lincoln wrote, and believed to be the final version.

Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial (www.lincolnbirthplace.com).

KY Lincoln: (http://kylincoln.org)

National Center for History in the Schools:  
http://nchs.ucla.edu/standards/thinking5-12-2  
http://nchs.ucla.edu/standards/thinking5-12-3

National Council Teachers of English:  
http://www.ncte.org/about/over/standards/110846

National Park Service: Teaching With Historic Places (www.nps.gov/history)

**Slide Show Photos Courtesy of:**

Lincoln Museum at Hodgenville, Kentucky  
National Park Service – Department of the Interior  
National Portrait Gallery Smithsonian Institution  
Pennsylvania State University Special Collections Library  

Personal Photo Collection of Lesson Writer (from Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site and Lincoln Museum at Hodgenville, Ky.; Lincoln Boyhood Home at Knob Creek near Hodgenville, Ky., and Kentucky State Capitol Rotunda, Frankfort, Ky.)

U. S. Library of Congress  
U. S. Mint

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*Special thanks to Chris Brown and Linda Stewart for technical assistance.*
STOVEPIPE HAT ORGANIZER: Side 1
(Note: Abraham Lincoln stuffed his tall stovepipe hat with bills, notes, and important papers!)

Use the organizer to write difficulties Abraham Lincoln faced as a learner.

Name: ______________________________________________________    Date:  ___________________
(Note: Abraham Lincoln stuffed his tall stovepipe hat with bills, notes, and important papers!)

Use the organizer to write ways Abraham Lincoln became a great leader through his words.

Name: ______________________________________________________    Date: ___________________
Lesson plan #1
True/False STATEMENTS ABOUT ABRAHAM LINCOLN

1. True or False: At 5’11” tall, Abraham Lincoln was the tallest President.

2. True or False: During his presidency, Abraham Lincoln became famous for not having a sense of humor.

3. True or False: Some people did not think Lincoln was a handsome man. When a little girl named Grace Bedell wrote him a letter saying he should grow a beard he did.

4. True or False: Abraham Lincoln’s wife, Mary Todd, was from Illinois.

5. True or False: He ran for political office ten times and won every election

6. True or False: Abraham Lincoln was often called “Honest Abe.”

7. True or False: He was a talented and capable wrestler.

8. True or False: Abraham Lincoln was an avid hunter and fisherman.

9. True or False: Abraham Lincoln spent so much time reading that his neighbors suspected he was avoiding work.

10. True or False: As a young boy, he was saved from drowning by a childhood friend.

11. True or False: During his life he had many roles besides being President of the United States. He was a military captain, a storekeeper, a surveyor, a postmaster, a surveyor, a husband, and father of four sons.

12. True or False: Abraham Lincoln became president after graduating from high school and attending college for a short period of time.
Lesson plan #1
True/False STATEMENTS ABOUT ABRAHAM LINCOLN--Answers

1. At 5’11” tall, Abraham Lincoln was the tallest President.—False: Yes Abraham Lincoln was the tallest President, but he was 6’4” tall.

2. During his presidency, Abraham Lincoln became famous for not having a sense of humor.—false: During his presidency, Abraham Lincoln became famous for his jokes.

3. Some people did not think Lincoln was a handsome man. When a little girl named Grace Bedell wrote him a letter saying he should grow a beard he did.--True

4. Abraham Lincoln’s wife, Mary Todd, was from Illinois.—False: She was from Kentucky

5. He ran for political office ten times and won every election.-- False: -- He ran for political office ten times and won all but two elections

6. Abraham Lincoln was often called “Honest Abe.”--True

7. He was a talented and capable wrestler.--True

8. Abraham Lincoln was an avid hunter and fisherman.—False: He avoided hunting and fishing because he did not like killing animals—even for food.

9. Abraham Lincoln spent so much time reading that his neighbors suspected he was avoiding work.—True

10. As a young boy, he was saved from drowning by a childhood friend.--true

11. During his life he had many roles besides being President of the United States. He was a military captain, a storekeeper, a surveyor, a postmaster, a surveyor, a husband, and father of four sons. –True

12. Abraham Lincoln became president after graduating from high school and attending college for a short period of time. False: Abraham Lincoln became president without graduating from high school or attending college.
Abraham Lincoln: Great Leader Great Learner
Kellie German

Find and circle these 20 words that are from the reading in class. Complete on your own.

log cabin
abraham lincoln
boatman
conviction
gettysburg address
civil war
confederate
kentucky
great leader
honest abe
united states
president
freedom
union
blab
great learner
lawyer
white house
mary todd
slavery
Color in this picture of Abraham Lincoln. It can be realistic or expressive. Then follow it up with a short paragraph describing what you think of Abraham’s life from the reading Great Leader Great Learner.
Crossword Puzzle
Facts about Abraham Lincoln

Across:

1. The sixteenth President of the United States of America
2. Abraham Lincoln’s nickname
3. After receiving a letter from Grace Bedell, he grew a ________.

Down:

4. Was Lincoln the tallest or shortest president?
5. One of Abraham Lincoln’s hobbies
6. Abraham Lincoln’s wife’s name
7. Abraham Lincoln never graduated from high school or attended __________.
8. The number of presidential elections Abraham Lincoln won
9. The number of Lincoln’s sons
Answers for Facts about Abraham Lincoln:

Across:

1. Abraham Lincoln
2. Abe
3. Beard

Down:

4. Tallest
5. Reading
6. Mary
7. College
8. Two
9. Four