

Trivia Questions:

1. What were the names of Abraham Lincoln's four sons? [Answer: Robert Todd Lincoln (1843-1926); Edward Baker Lincoln (1846-50); William Wallace Lincoln (1850-62); Thomas "Tad" Lincoln (1853-71)]
2. What was Lincoln's nickname and how did he come by it? [Answer: "Honest Abe"]
3. What school did Abraham Lincoln attend? [Answer: He had no formal education]
4. What other political positions did Lincoln hold? [Answer: Elected to Illinois State Legislature, 1834; Member of U.S. House of Representatives, 1847-49]

Of Note:

Lincoln was the first president to die by assassination.

Abraham Lincoln was shot while watching a performance of "Our American Cousin" at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C. The same play was also running at the McVerick Theatre in Chicago on May 18, 1860, the day Lincoln was nominated for president in that city.

The contents of his pockets on the night of his assassination weren't revealed until February 12, 1976. They contained two pairs of spectacles, a chamois lens cleaner, an ivory and silver pocketknife, a large white Irish linen handkerchief, slightly used, with "A. Lincoln" embroidered in red, a gold quartz watch fob without a watch, a new silk-lined, leather wallet containing a pencil, a Confederate five-dollar bill, and news clippings of unrest in the Confederate army, emancipation in Missouri, the Union party platform of 1864, and an article on the presidency by John Bright.

At 6 foot, 4 inches, Lincoln was the tallest president.

Abraham Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, died when the family cow ate poisonous white snakeroot plants. She then drank the poisoned milk from the cow and died.

Lincoln had a wart on his right cheek, a scar on his thumb from an ax accident, and a scar over his right eye from a fight with a gang of thieves.

Mrs. Lincoln's brother, half-brothers, and brothers-in-law fought in the Confederate Army.

Lincoln was the only president to receive a patent, for a device for lifting boats over shoals.

He was the first president to have a beard.

During the Civil War, telegraph wires were strung to follow the action on the battlefield. But there was no telegraph office in the White House, so Lincoln went across the street to the War Department to get the news.

He was the first president to be photographed at his inauguration. John Wilkes Booth (his assassin) can be seen standing close to Lincoln in the picture.

Lincoln and his wife held séances in the White House. They had great interest in psychic phenomena.

His son, Robert, who was in Washington when his father was killed, was also on the scene when Garfield was shot in 1881 and McKinley was assassinated in 1901.

Abraham Lincoln was the first president to be born outside of the original thirteen colonies.

Lincoln loved the works of Edgar Allan Poe.

When Abraham Lincoln was running for president, he got a letter from 11-year-old Grace Bedell saying that he would look better with a beard. Lincoln took her advice. Did it help him get elected? We don't know. But on his way to Washington, DC for the inauguration, Lincoln stopped off to visit Grace in her hometown of Westfield, NY.

Lincoln married Mary Todd on 4 Nov 1842. They had four sons. Mary had four brothers who fought for the South in the Civil War. Some people thought Mary Todd Lincoln was a spy for the South.