

## President Abraham Lincoln

Our nation has gone through many rough times throughout history. We have faced many wars, depressions, poor economic levels, etc. These tough times show us who the truly great leaders are. Our 16<sup>th</sup> president, Abraham Lincoln, was an inspiring leader to all. He was very courageous, honest, trustworthy, and a leader that this country could depend on. He led our country through one of the hardest times, Civil War.

Lincoln inspires me to do many things in life. One big thing is to always move on and to look at the bright side of every situation. He was born in a small cabin on February 12, 1809. Throughout his life, Lincoln's family was faced with many hardships such as struggling to be educated and to survive. He went through difficult times, such as being at the age of 10 when his mother passed. He and his family had to push to get through those tough times. Also, he always had to work hard to be educated and to work in order to earn money. He inspires me to always remember that each struggle in life is just temporary, and we will always get through it.

Another way he inspires me, is to always be honest. He was given the name "honest Abe" for many reasons. There is a story about how one day Lincoln walked for many miles just to give a woman the correct change because he had over-charged her. Even though it was just a few cents, Lincoln was an honest and caring person. He was someone who knew how to make right

judgment. He inspires me in my life to go the extra mile and to be honest in every situation.

Abraham Lincoln was elected President in the year 1860. At this time, 7 states had left the Union and formed the Confederate States of America and later 4 more joined them. Lincoln did everything in his power to prevent any more states from seceding. He was a President who committed to achieving his goals and never gave up. He fought for what he believed in and always spoke out against what he thought was wrong doing. He is remembered to many as the best President that we've had here in the United States. His time in Presidency shows me and that if you believe in something or want to change something, you should voice your opinion. Also, that your point of view isn't going to be heard unless you speak out for it.

Lincoln once said "Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The Shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing." This means that your character is always what your reputation will turn out to be. He never worried about what people would think of him, or what people would say. That is why he inspires me to always do what I think is right throughout my life. These are just a few ways in which our 16<sup>th</sup> President Abraham Lincoln has inspired me. It is the birthday bicentennial (200<sup>th</sup> birthday) this year of our great leader Lincoln and he will always be remembered by Americans.