President Lincoln’s Cottage is located on a picturesque hilltop in northwest Washington, DC. During the Civil War, President Lincoln and his family resided here from June to November of 1862, 1863 and 1864. While living at the Cottage, Lincoln developed his Emancipation Proclamation and plotted Union wartime strategies.

Opened to the public for the first time in 2008, President Lincoln’s Cottage reveals Abraham Lincoln’s presidency and private life—where it happened. Walking in President Lincoln’s footsteps, visitors gain insight into his most influential ideas and decisions.

Lincoln’s country home offers students of all ages a remarkable window into Lincoln’s life as father, husband, and commander-in-chief. Our unique, multimedia guided tour uses historical voices and images to bring to life the challenges Lincoln faced as president and the evolution of his emancipation strategies.

A visit to President Lincoln’s Cottage inspires young minds to consider the example of Lincoln’s leadership and character and his impact on students’ lives today. Abraham Lincoln’s personality, wartime decision-making, political maneuvers, and relationships with family, friends, and colleagues come to life for students and teachers through education programs at President Lincoln’s Cottage.

Our program at President Lincoln’s Cottage exemplified great leadership and provocative teaching! The primary source analysis and role play is a great teaching tool. Now my students see Lincoln as a ‘real’ person and better understand the issues surrounding emancipation!

8TH GRADE TEACHER, WASHINGTON, DC
On-campus programs are available for students in kindergarten through 12th grade and include a specialized tour of the Cottage and an interactive program component that meet Common Core and national standards of learning. Educator materials and lesson plans are available to prepare your students for their visit to President Lincoln’s Cottage, provide logistical information for your on-site experience, and help facilitate meaningful post-program reflection. To download, visit our website at www.lincolncottage.org.

Additionally, the site offers distance learning programs that can be used in the classroom or computer lab for 4th–12th grade.

Registration

To register for an education program at President Lincoln’s Cottage, download a Reservation Application and Tour Guidelines packet from our website: www.lincolncottage.org/visit/education.

When planning your student or teacher visit, please keep the following in mind:

◆ 3 weeks advanced reservations required.
◆ Send the complete form as an email attachment to LincolnEd@savingplaces.org or send via fax to 202.829.0437.
◆ Submitting the application does not mean your program is confirmed.
◆ Upon receipt of the application, a representative from the Education Department at President Lincoln’s Cottage will contact you within 48 hours to either confirm or reschedule your program. Confirmation emails are sent between 9am–5pm on weekdays only.
◆ Ample, on-site bus parking is available at no charge.
◆ Picnic tables are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Cost for education programs at President Lincoln’s Cottage is $7 per student. A nonrefundable $50 deposit is required to secure your reservation; final payment is due one week in advance of your visit. The Cottage welcomes District of Columbia Public Schools and Public Charter Schools to participate in its programs at no cost. President Lincoln’s Cottage is pleased to offer program and transportation scholarships thanks to the generous support of the Pulvermann Trust, the Newburger-Schwartz Family Foundation, and the Richard Schwartz Family Foundation. To inquire about these scholarships, please contact the Education Department at LincolnEd@savingplaces.org.
Curriculum areas met by Cottage programs:
- Art/Visual Arts
- Social Sciences/Studies
- Technology
- Geography
- Language Arts

All programs include a hands-on component in the Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center and a modified tour of President Lincoln’s Cottage.

Lincoln’s Hat
Grades K–3

As a young man, Abraham Lincoln began forming his ideas on issues such as justice and freedom. As he grew, so too did his ideas. While living at the Cottage, President Lincoln developed his ideas on the Civil War and emancipation and turned these ideas into action. In *Lincoln’s Hat*, students discover the ideas that President Lincoln developed from notes he stored inside his signature stovepipe hat. Lincoln’s unique note-taking practice serves as a model to students as they develop their own creative ideas and problem-solving skills on everyday decisions and complex issues. Following a reading of the book *Abe Lincoln’s Hat* (K–1st grade) and *What Do You Do With an Idea?* (2nd–3rd grade), a hands-on activity provides students with a special place to keep their own powerful ideas.

Program typically lasts 1.5 hours.

I See the President
Grades 4–5

During the Civil War, President Lincoln commuted daily from the Cottage through the heart of Civil War Washington to the White House. Along the way, Lincoln encountered soldiers heading for the front lines; self-emancipated men, women, and children living in contraband camps; wounded soldiers; and Washington residents, such as Walt Whitman. These diverse people influenced Lincoln and his ideas on the Civil War and emancipation and taught him lessons that are still relevant to today’s students. Lincoln’s desire to exchange ideas with those around him in order to gain new perspectives and better understand important issues serves as a model to young minds as they learn to respect each other’s ideas. In *I See the President*, students take on the role of the people President Lincoln interacted with on his daily commute, analyze their personal stories, and write a fable that teaches their classmates an important lesson.

Program typically lasts 2 hours but can be modified into a shorter program.
Lincoln’s Toughest Decisions: Debating Emancipation

Grades 6–12, College Students, and Adults

Abraham Lincoln’s presidency was marked by the development of big ideas and nation-changing actions. A key element of Lincoln’s collaborative process was to consult the ideas of those around him while leading the country through turmoil toward a new birth of freedom. Lincoln’s approach provides a model for students to develop their own decision-making skills as they strive to understand the value of conflicting ideas and building support to achieve positive change in modern society. In Lincoln’s Toughest Decisions: Debating Emancipation — an award-winning program that puts students in the role of President Lincoln’s closest advisors — students use touch-screen monitors to explore historical documents and recreate the heated discussions that President Lincoln had with his Cabinet over emancipation.

Program typically lasts 2 hours but can be modified into a shorter program.

Students Opposing Slavery

Grades 9–12

Students Opposing Slavery (SOS) is a grassroots youth engagement program that encourages high school students to join the fight to end modern slavery. This network of modern abolitionists raises awareness on modern slavery and helps students develop the tools they need to continue Lincoln’s fight for freedom in their own communities.

For more information on how you and your students can be involved in SOS and the 2015 SOS International Summit, contact Callie Hawkins at CHawkins@savingplaces.org.

FOR EDUCATORS

Living Lincoln: A Workshop for Teachers

During his presidency, Abraham Lincoln developed a unique leadership style that continues to resonate with today’s leaders. In Living Lincoln: A Workshop for Teachers, a museum educator facilitates an interactive workshop for school leaders that uses Lincoln’s pragmatic style as a model for helping students develop the skills they need to be effective leaders. In this workshop, educators receive a customized tour of the Cottage, a resource packet of reflection activities and lesson plans, and an introduction to Lincoln’s Toughest Decisions: Debating Emancipation.

Civil War Washington Teacher Fellows

The Civil War Washington Museum Consortium, including President Lincoln’s Cottage, Ford’s Theatre Society, Frederick Douglass National Historic Site, and Tudor Place Historic House and Garden, offers week-long, summer workshops for educators. These workshops provide a place-based approach to exploring Washington during the Civil War, as teachers spend time at each participating site, discover Civil War neighborhoods through walking tours, and leave with an array of resources to use in their classrooms. For more information on the Civil War Washington Teacher Fellows program, please contact LincolnEd@savingplaces.org.
EXERCISE

Idea Portraits: What Do You Do With An Idea?

This exercise was developed by 2014 Civil War Washington Teacher Fellow Beverly Blackmon, who is a 3rd and 4th grade gifted teacher in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. To find a complete lesson plan and materials, please visit www.lincolncottage.org/visit/education.

Artist John Williams created Lincoln (portrait on the reverse of this brochure) “to show how Lincoln might have been feeling with the weight of the world on his shoulders — tired and sad, but also determined to achieve his goal of a united nation with freedom and justice for all.” The ideas that President Lincoln worked on while living at the Cottage, and the action he took in support of these ideas, are among the many reasons we remember him today. President Lincoln serves as a model to all of us as we develop our own powerful ideas and problem-solving skills.

Grade Level:
3rd and 4th grades

Essential Questions:
◆ What are ideas?
◆ Why are ideas important?

Time:
One, 60-minute class period

STANDARDS ALIGNMENT
◆ CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCR.R.1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

◆ CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.2: Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

◆ CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.5: Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.

◆ CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.SL.1: Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

Materials:
◆ Construction paper
◆ Crayons or markers
◆ Glue or glue stick
◆ Scissors
INTRODUCTION

Ask students:
◆ What is an idea?
◆ Where do ideas come from?
◆ Why do we have ideas?
◆ What do you do with an idea?

PROCEDURE

Read page 1-2. Have students analyze the illustration.
◆ How does the illustrator represent the idea?
◆ How is the idea different from the rest of the illustration?

Read remainder of What Do You Do With an Idea? Discuss questions about the book:
◆ Why would someone act like an idea didn’t belong to him or her?
◆ What does an idea need?
◆ How does the illustrator represent attention?

List synonyms for the word idea. (If necessary, use thesaurus or online thesaurus.)

Ask students to list ideas floating around in their head.

Have students pair up with a partner and share ideas.

Discuss:
◆ Did you and your partner have different ideas? Why is it important that we have different ideas?
◆ Did you and your partner have similar ideas? Why is it important that we have similar ideas?

Students create a self-portrait.
◆ Students cut head,
◆ Glue onto a piece of colored construction paper, and
◆ Illustrate the ideas they have in their heads.

CLOSURE/REFLECTION

How will you give one of your ideas attention so it can grow?

Extension:
◆ In the book, the boy built a house without a roof for his idea so that the idea could grow. During Abraham Lincoln’s presidency, he spent time in the Cottage on the grounds of Old Soldiers’ Home as a retreat to give his ideas time and space to grow.

◆ Download images of President Lincoln’s Cottage at the Soldiers’ Home and discuss the role the Cottage played as a retreat for Lincoln (www.linolncottage.org/visit/education).

◆ Additional lesson plan — “President Lincoln’s Cottage: A Retreat” from the National Park Service Teaching with Historic Places (http://linolncottage.org/cottage-featured-on-teaching-with-historic-places/).

◆ Ask students to write a descriptive paragraph about where they would go as a retreat to grow their ideas.
A Lincoln
PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S COTTAGE
AT THE SOLDIERS' HOME

WWW.LINCOLNCOTTAGE.ORG

“Lincoln” by John Williams
UPCOMING EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS AT PRESIDENT LINCOLN’S COTTAGE

JUNE-NOVEMBER 2014
On display: Abraham Lincoln’s slippers

SEPTEMBER 27, 2014
Freedom 5K XC

OCTOBER 7, 2014
Evening for Educators at President Lincoln’s Cottage

OCTOBER 25, 2014
Teacher Professional Development workshop with Facing History and Ourselves

APRIL 12–18, 2015
Lincoln Legacy commemoration

For more information on upcoming education and public programs visit www.lincolncottage.org.