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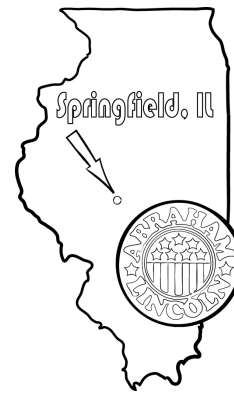


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Lincoln Fact:

Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809, in Kentucky. His family moved to southwestern Indiana in 1816. After his mother's death, his father remarried. Abraham missed his mother terribly, but he grew to love his stepmother a great deal. Although his parents attended church, Abraham never joined any particular church. Many feel this was because of the terrible rivalry between denominations that he witnessed at times. However, he knew the Bible thoroughly and had deep religious beliefs.

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Lincoln Fact:

In 1830, the family moved to Illinois. Abraham was an adult now and helped the family with everything that had to be done to move. He knew he did not want to be a farmer like his father, so he tried many different occupations. He finally settled on the idea of being a lawyer. He had taught himself math and grammar, and now he began studying law books. He passed the bar exam in 1836 and began to practice law. In 1837, he moved to Springfield, Illinois.

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Lincoln Fact:

Soon after moving to Springfield, Abraham met a woman named Mary Todd. Mary was from Kentucky but was living in Springfield with her married sister. Abraham and Mary married in 1842. They lived in a boarding house until Abraham bought a home. They lived in that house until he was elected president. They had four sons, but only one of them lived to adulthood.

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Lincoln Fact:

Lincoln served in state politics for several years before he decided he wanted to represent his district in Congress. In 1847, Lincoln took his seat in Congress as a member of the Whig party. He had agreed to serve only one term, and in 1849 after his term ended, he went back to the practice of law. However, changes were coming that would propel him back into politics.