

Abraham Lincoln: Pro Wrestler

By Steve Sheinkin

Before Reading

Talk or think about what you already know about President Abraham Lincoln. If you're not sure, or you want to find out more, check out <https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/presidents/abraham-lincoln>.

Once you have an understanding about when Lincoln lived and why he is (very) important in U.S. history, get ready to wrestle! (Oops, we mean *read!*)

But first, look at the cover and read the title (and the series name, Time Twisters). Then examine the illustration. What's going on in the picture? Can you make any predictions about this book?

While Reading

As you read, pause and think about the following:

At the end of Chapter 3, Lincoln blames students and teachers, and he makes a threat. What does he blame them for, and what threat does he make?

Mr. Douglass helps Abby and Doc understand the importance of the Emancipation Proclamation and its role in the Civil War. Can you summarize his explanation in your own words?

What reasons does Lincoln give for wanting to be a wrestler? How does Abby plan to get him back on track?

After Reading

Together, talk about what you would do if you had access to a time-traveling cardboard box. What figure from history would you want to suddenly appear in your world? What would you want to show, tell, or ask this person?

Did anything you learned about Lincoln surprise you?

Literacy Tip

The Time Twisters series of books belong to a genre called historical fiction (meaning that the book contains both facts and made-up material). After reading *Abraham Lincoln: Pro Wrestler*, find out what's real and what's not by reading the author's note called "Un-Twisting History" (pages 141–147).

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Think About It!

Pretend you're a present-day journalist (someone who writes informational stories for newspapers, magazines, blogs, etc.). Write a list of questions you would ask the historical figure you'd like to meet. Do some research so that you're prepared. Invite a friend to play the role of the historical figure. (They'll have to research that person so they'll know how to answer the questions.) How do you think it might be different being a journalist in the present day interviewing someone who lived in the past, versus being a journalist who lived at the same time as the person?