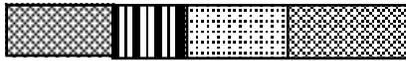


Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt



by Deborah Hopkinson



Objective: ...locate information using dictionary, encyclopedia, and other library references including data base searching strategies

The Underground Railroad

Use your library resources to discover as much as you can about the Under-ground Railroad that Aunt Rachel told Clara about. Work with a partner and use the **5 W's plus H** to guide you! When you are finished, design a short play about the Underground Railroad and act it out for your class.

WHO? _____

WHAT? _____

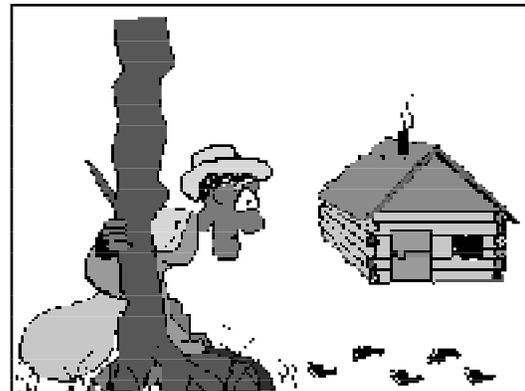
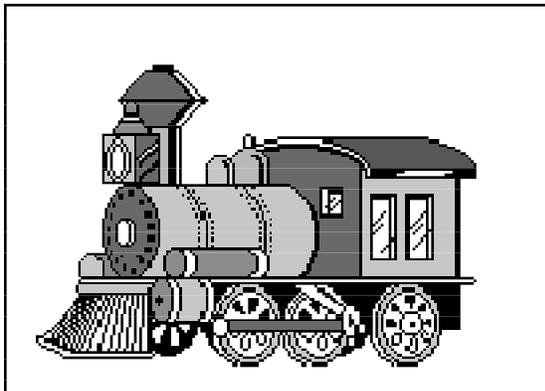
WHERE? _____

WHEN? _____

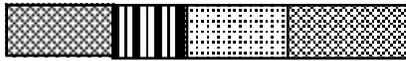
WHY? _____

HOW? _____

Circle the picture below that best represents the Underground Railroad:



Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt



by Deborah Hopkinson



Objective: ...understand the difference between standard and non-standard English

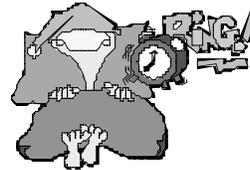
The English Quilt

I had hardly shut my eyes when the alarm rang this morning.



Standard English is usually used in public: at work, at school, or in more formal settings.

I ain't hardly shut my eyes yet!

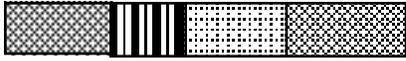


Non-standard English is sometimes used at home, with friends, by very young children, or in plays or literature by characters who have not had formal education.

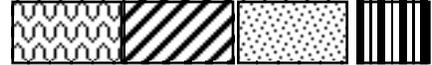
On the quilt below, each pair of patches should say the same thing. One says it in standard English. The other says it in non-standard English. The sentences in the squares are in NON-STANDARD ENGLISH. Write the sentence in the matching patch in STANDARD ENGLISH.

We was really happy to find freedom.		Clara done made a map.	She come back late that night.	When they arrived, they says GLORY!
	She come back late that night.		We ain't far from the river.	She work hard for freedom.
			It be easy if you could get a map.	In one month, Clara learn to sew.
	Clara never been to school.			Clara never seen white people up close.
Her fingers was tired.			Them men was here.	

Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt



by Deborah Hopkinson



Objective: ...using logic, map skills, and recognition of details to develop literal meaning

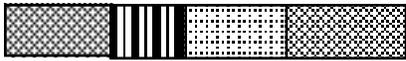
Which Way to Freedom?

Sweet Clara led Young Jack to freedom by recalling the landmarks on her quilt. Follow the clues below to mark their path to freedom in Canada. On the map on page 133, draw a red ribbon that shows which way they went. Label the Ohio River, the creek, Canada, the boat, the swamp, Mr. Morse's farm, the Verona Plantation, Home Plantation, North Farm, woods north of the Ohio River,

Clues:

1. The Ohio River ran from west to east, but the creek flowed from the eastern edge to southern edge of the quilt.
2. Home Plantation was in the southeastern corner of the quilt.
3. North Farm was to the west of the corn fields, and the Richmond Plantation was north of the swamp. Mr. Morse's farm was southeast of the Verona Plantation.
4. At first they traveled west until they found the tree which had been hit by lightning. Then they headed toward the swamp.
5. At night, they crossed the creek and the road which ran beside the creek so no one would see them.
6. To get through the swamp safely, they followed the hunting path which led right across the middle of the swamp from east to west.
7. On the west side of the swamp, they kept traveling toward the west and crossed a field of black-eyed peas.
8. They turned north to follow the western edge of the field of black-eyed peas until they reached the shallow pond where they ate some of cattails growing there.
9. Northwest of the cattail pond, they entered fields of corn which were west of the Verona Plantation. In the middle of the fields, they turned west to go to the North Farm where Clara found her mother.
10. When they left the North Farm, they had to go to the west into the field of watermelons to avoid the patrollers.
11. In the field of watermelons, they walked north until they came to another field. There, they turned east and walked on the edge of a field of black-eyed peas. They continued eastward, crossed a field of beans, and slipped past two farm houses which were not on the Underground Railroad. They got supplies at the third farm that was part of the Underground Railroad.
12. The people of Underground Railroad wished them luck and pointed them north to the Ohio River. At the river, they followed the bank west until they found a boat in which to row across.
13. From there, they went through the woods and followed the North Star to Canada.

Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt

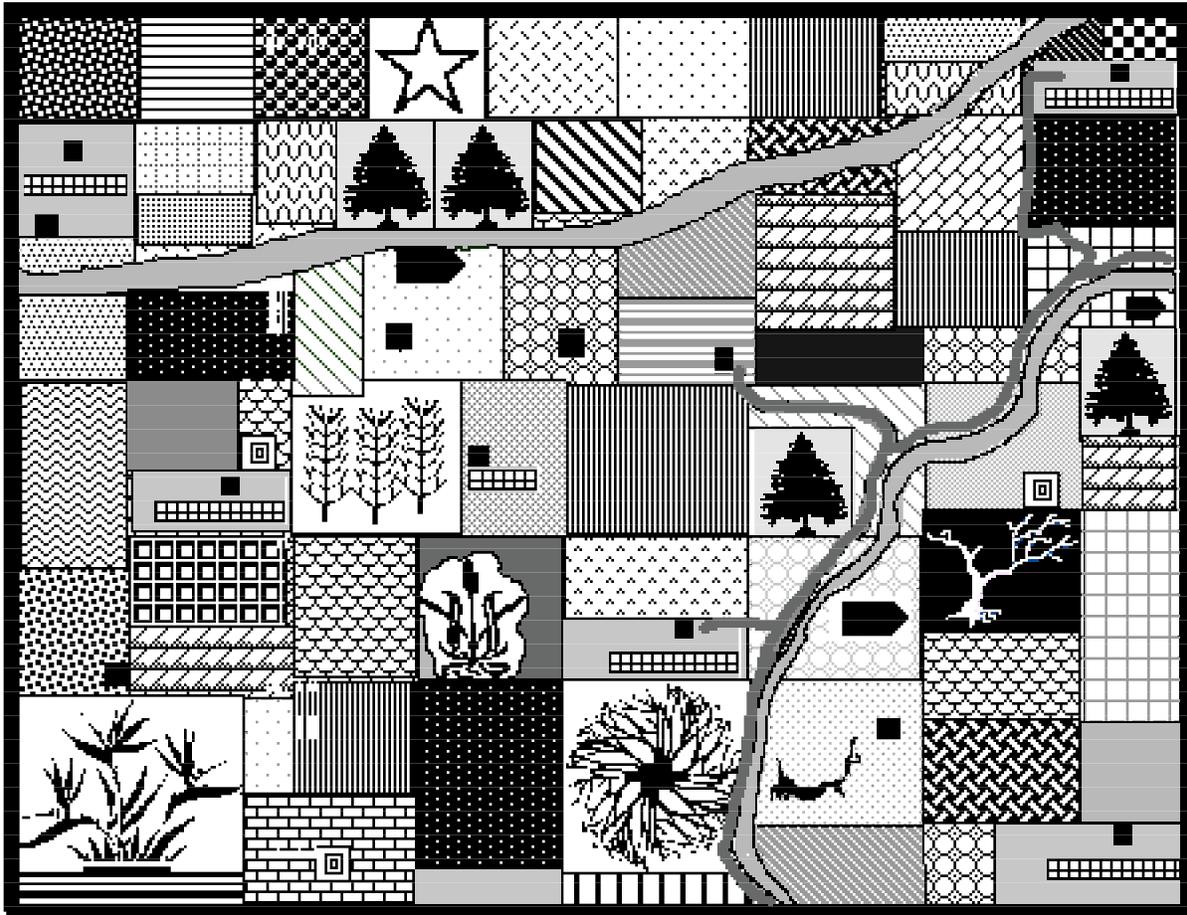


by Deborah Hopkinson



Which Way to Freedom?

Follow the directions on page 132 to mark the freedom path on Clara's Freedom Quilt:

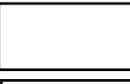
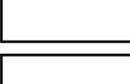


Key

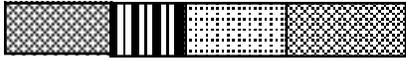
-  Field of black-eyed peas
-  Farm House
-  Slaves' Quarters
-  Patrollers who look for runaway slaves
-  boat
-  Dead Tree which was struck by lightning

-  Corn Fields
-  Swamp

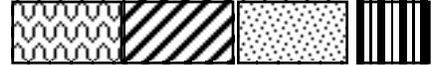
Complete this part:

-  Watermelon Field
-  Bean Field
-  Cattail Pond
-  One stop in the Under-ground Railroad

Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt



by Deborah Hopkinson



Objective: ...using cause and effect to develop literal meaning

Friends and Freedom

Use your skills in identifying cause and effect to answer the following questions from Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt.

___ 1. Why did Aunt Rachel teach Clara to sew?

- A. She thought Clara wasn't strong enough to work in the fields.
- B. She wanted Clara to have nicer clothes.
- C. Aunt Rachel wanted Clara to make a freedom quilt so she could escape.
- D. Aunt Rachel knew that Clara was thin so she also got cold easily and needed to be able to make a quilt to keep her warm.

___ 2. Clara was sent away from her mother when she was 12. What effect did this have on Clara?

- A. She was glad to get to go out on her own.
- B. She made friends easier after that.
- C. Clara began to dream of freedom and finding her mother again.
- D. Clara hated everyone and everything.

___ 3. Why did Aunt Rachel make Clara tear out the longer stitches?

- A. Aunt Rachel was trying to keep Clara busy so she wouldn't think about escaping.
- B. She was a mean lady and wanted everything perfect.
- C. If Clara would become an excellent seamstress, she had to practice the right way.
- D. The quilt wouldn't look right with long stitches.

___ 4. What caused Clara to take so long in making the quilt?

- A. She didn't want to get caught making the map in the quilt.
- B. Clara had to collect directions and the right kind of cloth for the quilt.
- C. She was very slow so she could make short stitches.
- D. She knew she had to wait until the boat was ready for her.

___ 5. What caused Clara to get the idea of making a map in a quilt?

- A. People in the Big House told her about map quilts that they had seen.
- B. One day Clara noticed that a piece of a blanket she was sewing was in the shape of a land form near her home.
- C. She copied it from a map she was given.
- D. Young Jack drew one for her in the dirt.

Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt



by Deborah Hopkinson



Friends and Freedom (Continued)

- ___ 6. Aunt Rachel pointed out the North Star to Clara. What effect did this have on Clara?
- A. Clara began to study the stars and planets.
 - B. Clara decided to sew a star into her quilt to make it prettier.
 - C. Clara wanted to get on the railroad train with the star on it.
 - D. Clara knew which direction she would have to go to reach freedom.
- ___ 7. Clara drew the map on the ground for Young Jack. What effect did this have on Young Jack.
- A. He got upset and told Sweet Clara that she shouldn't think about escaping.
 - B. He didn't smile the way he used to.
 - C. Young Jack seemed to grow more hopeful.
 - D. Young Jack started talking more and more.
- ___ 8. People came by often to visit with Clara as she sewed on her quilt. What effect did this have on Clara?
- A. It gave her new ideas about where to sew in new landmarks on her map.
 - B. It made her proud that everyone thought she was such a good seamstress.
 - C. They all warned her about what could happen to her if she escaped.
 - D. She knew where the best place to plant corn was.
- ___ 9. What caused Clara to say she couldn't sleep under the quilt?
- A. She didn't want to marry Young Jack.
 - B. The weather was too warm where she lived to need a quilt.
 - C. It was just made of scraps that weren't very pretty.
 - D. Clara had made this quilt to guide her to freedom not to keep her warm.
- ___ 10. Clara left the quilt with Aunt Rachel. What effect did this have on others?
- A. Clara got sick and cold when she ran away.
 - B. Aunt Rachel let others use the map on it so they could reach freedom.
 - C. Many other people learned to sew by looking at her work in the quilt.
 - D. Clara and Young Jack got lost in the swamp because they didn't have a map to follow.
11. On the back, name two causes for Clara wanting to leave Home Plantation.