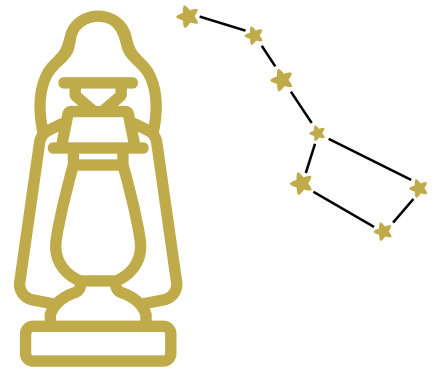


COMPARING TWO NONFICTION TEXTS:

A Freedom Fighter

Directions: Read the informational texts on pages 1 and 2. Then, complete the graphic organizer on page 3.



Text 1

Have you ever taken a risk? A risk is something that could be dangerous. It could cause harm or loss. Harriet Tubman took many risks for herself, her family, and other enslaved people.

Harriet Tubman was born into slavery in Maryland around 1820. In 1849, she escaped to Pennsylvania, which was a free state, meaning slavery was not legal there. The following year, she returned home in secret to help family members escape slavery. By 1857, she had rescued her mother, her father, and one of her brothers. After that, she helped as many as 70 enslaved people escape to free states, risking her own life to save others. In 1863, she led a raid that freed 750 enslaved people in South Carolina.

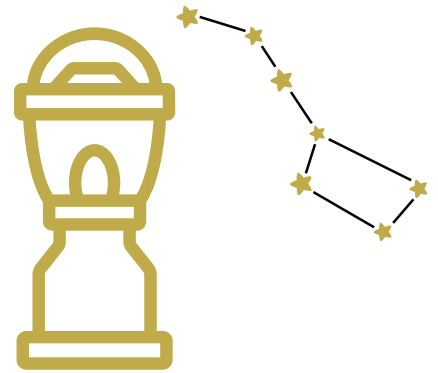
The Underground Railroad was a network, or group of people, who worked together to bring enslaved people to freedom. It was not an actual railroad that you could see. Instead, there was a secret route, or path, that enslaved people could follow to freedom.

People on the Underground Railroad found safe places for those escaping slavery to stay as they traveled. The people who guided the enslaved people from place to place were called “conductors.” Harriet Tubman was the most famous conductor on the Underground Railroad.

COMPARING TWO NONFICTION TEXTS:

A Freedom Fighter

Directions: Read the informational texts on pages 1 and 2. Then, complete the graphic organizer on page 3.



Text 2

Harriet Tubman was born into slavery on a plantation in Maryland around 1820. No one, not even Harriet, knew what day she was born—enslaved families often weren't allowed to celebrate birthdays. She worked in her owner's house and fields for her entire childhood. When she was older, she married a man named John Tubman.

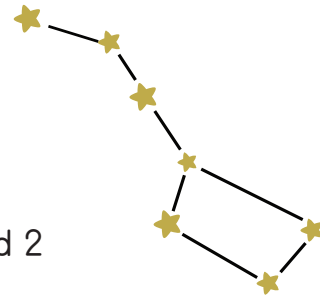
A few years later, Harriet heard news that the enslaved people on the plantation where she lived were going to be sold. She did not want to go to another owner, so she decided to run away. Running away was dangerous for enslaved people in the 1800s. If an enslaved person was found, their owners would often hurt them and punish them.

Once Harriet escaped, she met a friendly woman who helped her hide. At night, Harriet went north, toward states where enslaved people could be free. She made it all the way to Philadelphia, where she was able to find work. Once she had saved up some money, she went back to Maryland to help her family and friends escape, too. Pretty soon, she was taking enslaved people of all kinds through the Underground Railroad.


The Underground Railroad was a network of houses owned by people who did not agree with slavery. These people had promised to hide enslaved people and keep them safe as they tried to escape north. Enslaved people traveling on the railroad hid during the day and traveled to the next house at night, until they reached a free state.

By 1860, Tubman had helped many enslaved individuals and families find safety in the North. When the Civil War started, Tubman worked for the Union Army as a cook and a nurse. She also helped lead a raid that rescued more than 750 enslaved people. When the war was over, she spoke about injustice toward African Americans and opened a home for elderly people. Harriet Tubman cared for others her entire life.

COMPARING TWO NONFICTION TEXTS: A Freedom Fighter



Directions: Use the informational texts on pages 1 and 2 to complete the graphic organizer below.

	Text 1 Differences	Similarities	Text 2 Differences
<p>Topic: What topic is being explored in these two texts? How are the topics different?</p>			
<p>Main Idea: What is the main idea or main focus of each of the texts?</p>			
<p>Supporting Details: List at least two details that the texts have in common. List at least two details that are different in the texts.</p>			
<p>Written Response: Which text would be better to find information about Harriet Tubman's escape? How do you know?</p> 	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>		