



Unit 5 – Focus on – Running away

1. An African-American heroine

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Museum guide: Welcome to the Harriet Tubman Museum. Did you know this woman was chosen to appear on the 20-dollar bill? She was a true hero but her life was hard. Do you know when she was born?

Girl: She was born in 1821 or 1822.

Guide: Right! She lived on a plantation. Her parents had nine children. Everybody had to live in a one-room cabin! They were slaves and they had to work for a master. They had to obey and when they didn't obey...

Boy: They were whipped by the master!

Guide: Yes. When Harriet was 5, she was rented to a family. She had to do the housework and look after a baby and when the baby cried, she was beaten by her mistress.

Boy: When did she run away?

Guide: She escaped in 1849. Do you know where she went?

Girl: She went up north. In northern states, black people were free.

Guide: Correct! She went to Philadelphia but she came back to Maryland: she had to help her family to be free. She helped 300 slaves to escape on the Underground Railroad, a secret network.

Boy: And she was never caught?

Guide: Never! She risked her life: a 40,000-dollar reward was offered by slave owners for her capture.