

## EL/Civics Lesson Plan

Program Name  
Staff Responsible for Lesson

Delaware Area Career Center EL Civics  
Sara Ledford

Date(s) Used	February 2011
Civics Category	III. History, Gov't and Citizenship Prep
Civics Objective	2 Government and Law
Time Frame to Complete Lesson	90 minutes.
EFL(s)	Level 3, 4, and 5.
Standard(s)	Read with Understanding, Convey Ideas in Writing, Listening and Speaking.
Benchmark(s)	R.3-R5, W.3-W.5, L.3, L.5, S.3-S5.
Materials	Teacher-written Story Question and Answer Sheet.
Activities	<p>Read story together</p> <p>Discuss with partner</p> <p>Do the question and answer sheet.</p> <p>Discuss as a class the ideas/feelings that they have written about at the bottom of sheet.</p> <p>Encourage research on the subject.</p> <p>Look for books on this period of history at the local library.</p>
Assessment/ Evidence	<p>Class discussion.</p> <p>Ideas and answers on the handout sheet.</p>
Reflection	<p>Westerville is the home of the Hanby House. A trip there would be worthwhile in this study. Many books in the children's section of the library tell about this time period. My students are always interested, and ask questions about slavery in the United States.</p>

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### THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

February is Black History Month. We honor and remember those Black Americans who are so important to our history. Part of our Black History involves the Underground Railroad Movement of the early 1800s.

The Underground Railroad was not a railroad at all, but a secret route from house to house. Slaves escaping from southern states used this highly organized system to arrive at freedom.

Since a railroad moves people and supplies from place to place, so the name underground (secret or hidden) railroad came to be widely used to symbolize this movement. Also the people who offered directions, food, homes and safety were called “conductors”.

Ohio and even the Columbus area played important roles at this time in history. Many people living in this area helped the escaping slaves. Helping could be very dangerous. Slavery had been abolished in the North by early 1800, but it was illegal to help a runaway slave from the South.

Many homes were stops along the Underground Railroad. Three in Ohio are National Historic Landmarks. They are the Rankin House (over-looking the Ohio River) in Ripley, Oh; the Kelton House at 586 E. Town St. in Columbus.; the Hanby House located in Westerville.

There are many interesting stories connected with these homes and their involvement with the Underground Railroad.

The Rankin House was owned by John Rankin, a minister who was devoted to the antislavery movement. He called his house a door to freedom.

The family who lived in Kelton House found a young Black girl in the bushes outside their home; and took her in until she married ten years later.

The Hanby family kept a vase in their window. A rose was placed in the vase to show the number of slaves they were sheltering at that time.

This interesting time in our history can be researched at the Library or on the Internet. These homes and museums can be visited for a first-hand look.

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1. Read these questions.
2. Discuss your ideas with a friend.
3. Reread the questions. Write the answers on the back of this paper.
4. Check your grammar.

### QUESTIONS

1. What was the Underground Railroad?
2. What was the purpose (reason) for the Underground Railroad?
3. Why was the Underground Railroad needed/necessary?
4. How did the Underground Railroad work?
5. When did the Underground Railroad operate? (Time-frame)
6. How was the state of Ohio a part of the plan?
7. What part did “conductors” play in the success of the railroad?
8. Where can you find out more about the Underground Railroad?

### WRITE

Write five lines about the Underground Railroad. Was this time in Ohio history good or bad?? Why do you think/feel this way? Watch your grammar. We will discuss these ideas together as a class.