

# TEACHER'S GUIDE

## Glossary of Key Terms

### MISSION 2: "Flight to Freedom"

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*As students play MISSION 2: "Flight to Freedom," they will encounter many of the following key terms and definitions. The key terms appear throughout the Mission during the different parts of Lucy's life. Please see the Mission 2 At A Glance document in the Overview section of the Teacher Materials for information on when terms are included in gameplay. Additional terms are included for teacher and student reference.*

**abolitionists**—men or women who wanted the immediate end to slavery. Some abolitionists believed blacks and whites were equal. Others did not.

**ambush**—to conduct a surprise attack.

**American Colonization Society**—the organization founded in 1816 whose mission was to transport free African Americans to colonies in Africa.

**affidavit**—a written statement used as evidence in court.

**armory**—a supply of weapons; a place where weapons are made and/or stored.

**auction**—a public sale where goods or services go to the highest bidder.

**auction block**—a platform from where a person sells a good or service to the highest bidder.

**bankruptcy**—when a person can no longer pay their creditors (the people who loaned them money or goods).

**"Big house"**—a reference to the plantation owner's home, the biggest house on the plantation.

**Bleeding Kansas**—the name for a period of violence between pro- and antislavery forces in Kansas Territory from roughly 1854 to 1857.

**bluff**—an attempt to fool someone by lying or tricking them.

**border**—the line, or area, separating two geographic regions.

**Border State**—the states of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri that were located between the "free" and "slave" states. Although they're referred to as border states, each had slavery.



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**bounty**—a reward for a service rendered, such as the capture of a runaway slave.

**bounty hunter**—someone who captures individuals, such as runaway slaves, for whom a reward is offered.

**brace**—(*noun*) a device that clamps together to provide support; (*verb*) to make sturdier.

**calling (vocation)** — an occupation; profession.

**Canada**—a part of the British Empire (before 1867) that borders the United States to the north and where slavery was illegal.

**cargo**—the load of goods held in a ship's hull or on a wagon.

**chattel slavery**— the ownership of a person and his/her descendants.

**cholera**—a life-threatening disease of the small intestine, which causes severe diarrhea, vomiting, and muscle cramps.

**chicken coop**—a shed or other enclosure where chickens are kept and raised.

**Cincinnati**—a city in the southwest corner of Ohio. It was a common destination for runaway slaves in the 1830s, 40s, and 50s.

**citizen**—a legally recognized individual within a city, state or nation who has rights, like voting and land ownership.

**civil disobedience**—the refusal to obey certain laws or requirements of a government.

**coincidence**—when two or more things occur at the same time, in a way that is not planned or expected.

**colonization**—a movement in the 1800s to transport free African Americans to Africa.

**colored**—an old term used to refer to African Americans.

**comfrey root**—a root found in the United States that can be used to heal cuts, burns, and other wounds.

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**commissioner**—a person who has been hired to perform a business or duty for the government.

**convention**— a large meeting of a group of people who have a common goal or are interested in a common topic.

**Compromise of 1850**—a series of bills that tried to end the sectional stalemate over slavery. It admitted California as a free state, but it also provided slave catchers with increased powers to return fugitive slaves back to the South.

**conductor**—a person who helped transport freedom seekers along the Underground Railroad.

**cotton gin**— a machine invented by Eli Whitney, which separates cotton seeds from cotton.

**defer**—to accept someone else's opinion or judgment on a particular topic or situation out of respect for that person.

**detour**—a roundabout route used to avoid something dangerous or troublesome.

**"down river"**—a term describing the selling of a slave to the Deep South, oftentimes by using the Mississippi River for part of the travel.

**diligence**—dedicated, persistent work or effort.

**discrimination**—treating someone unfairly and/or poorly because of their race, ethnicity, religion, etc.

**emancipation**—freeing someone from slavery.

**embroidery**—the art of stitching decoration onto cloth with thread or yarn.

**endure**— to put up with something that might cause pain or discomfort; tolerate.

**ferry**—a boat or raft used to carry passengers and/or goods from one side of a body of water to the other.

**flatboat**—a boat with a flat bottom that was used to transport a large number of goods across a river.



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**foolhardy**—reckless; doing things without thinking.

**ford**—(*noun*) a shallow place in a river where one can walk across; (*verb*) to cross a river at a shallow place.

**foreman**—someone in charge of a group of workers.

**foundry**—a workshop or factory where metal can be cast and shaped.

**free blacks**—African Americans who were not enslaved, although they faced discrimination in most communities, in the North as well as the South.

**freeholder**—someone who owns a piece of land and has the right to sell, lease or rent it.

**free papers/freedom papers**—a certificate proving the free status of an African American.

**Free Soil**—a political group within the antislavery movement that wanted to restrict slavery from the western territories. They did not support racial equality.

**free state**— a US state in which slavery was not allowed and/or became illegal before the Civil War.

**fugitive**—the term used to describe runaway slaves; also, a person who has escaped from a place and is hiding.

**Fugitive Slave Act**—a part of the Compromise of 1850 that provided slave catchers with increased powers to return freedom seekers to the South. It also required northerners, and their legal officials, to assist in this process.

**gavel**—a mallet or hammer used to get a group's attention or to confirm an action (at a meeting, in court, etc.).

**Godey's Lady's Book**—a popular lady's magazine during the Civil War era, covering such topics as fashion and containing essays, short stories and poetry.

**green wood**—wood that is tough to burn because it hasn't had time to dry out since it's recently been cut from a living tree.

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**Harriet Beecher Stowe**—the abolitionist author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, a best-selling novel based on real events that convinced many northerners that slavery was wrong.

**harvest**—the period and process of gathering crops on a farm or plantation.

**hemp**— a plant, the coarse fiber of which can be used to make rope, fabric, or paper.

**hemp-break**—a machine used to separate the hemp's fibers from the plant's stalk

**hiring-out papers**—documents allowing a slave to travel or work for someone other than his or her owner.

**illiterate**—unable to read or write.

**Lexington**—a city in northern Kentucky, located about 80 miles from the Ohio border.

**lickety split**—very fast.

**Licking River**—a tributary of the Ohio River, located in northeastern Kentucky.

**literate/literacy**—being able to read and write.

**master**—the person who owned a slave.

**Maysville**—a city bordering the Ohio River in northern Kentucky. It was an important crossing point for slaves escaping to the North.

**missionary**—a person who is sent to a specific region or country to do religious work.

**moor**—to secure a boat in a particular place.

**morals**—a person's belief in what is right and what is not right for them to do.

**namesake**—a person, place or thing having the same name as another; often referring to someone who is named after another person.

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**Negro**—common term used during the Civil War era to refer to an African American, or black, person.

**Ohio River**—the river that separates the states of Ohio and Kentucky. It's the largest tributary of the Mississippi River, and it begins in Pennsylvania.

**opportunist**—a person who takes advantage of a situation, often with little thought to consequences or principles involved.

**overseer**—the person hired to run the day-to-day operations of a plantation, including discipline.

**patrollers**—individuals in charge of capturing and returning runaway slaves within a certain town, county, or state.

**plantation**—a large farm, normally specializing in the growth of one cash crop, worked by slaves.

**precaution**— an action taken ahead of time to avoid something that could be dangerous or harmful.

**proprietress/ proprietor**— a person who owns a business or property.

**prowling**— to move about in a sneaky manner, like a animal searching for its prey.

**prudence**—caution.

**quandary**—a state of uncertainty; a predicament.

**radical**—having extreme views which are not shared by most people.

**rebellion**—active and open resistance against a ruler or leader.

**reformer**—someone who sets out to change an aspect of society that they do not like.

**resistance**—refusing to comply or follow directions, orders or demands; fighting back.

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**reverend**—a title of respect used when talking to a preacher, pastor, minister or other member of the clergy in a church.

**Ripley**—a town in Ohio, on the other side of the Ohio River from Kentucky, that served as a safe haven for fugitive slaves along the "underground railroad."

**road pass or slave pass**—a pass needed by slaves (and sometimes by free blacks) if they were traveling throughout the South.

**root cellar**—a structure built partially or entirely underground that stores vegetables, fruits, nuts and other food.

**runaway**—a slave trying to escape his or her owners so that he could be free.

**ruthless**—cruel, mean, heartless.

**sabotage**—purposely destroying, disabling, damaging or obstructing something.

**safe house**—homes on the Underground Railroad, which provided food and a safe place for runaway slaves to stay on their way to freedom.

**seminary**—a school or place of religious learning.

**shawl**—a piece of fabric worn by women, normally worn around the shoulders or wrapped around the head.

**skiff**—a shallow, flat-bottomed open boat.

**slave**—a person forced to work for someone else, not earning any money or reward for their effort.

**slave catchers**—men who were paid to travel even to the North to find and bring back slaves who had run away.

**slave codes**— laws which limited the rights of slaves and gave slave owners total power over them.

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**slave power**—the belief among antislavery men and women that southerners who were only interested in protecting the institution of slavery controlled the U.S. government.

**slave quarters**—the housing for laborers, oftentimes small shack-like housing with very few comforts.

**slave state**— a US state in which slavery was legal before the Civil War.

**slave trader**- someone who buys and sells people as slaves.

**Slaveocracy**—a ruling group of slaveholders or advocates of slavery, as in the southern United States before 1865. A popular term during the slave era, used in anti-slavery newspapers like *The Liberator* and *Emancipator*.

**slop**—bran or cornmeal mixed with water and fed to pigs and other livestock.

**smokehouse**—a place to both "smoke," or cook, and store meat.

**"sold south"**—the term used when slave owners decided to sell either disobedient or nonessential slaves further south to raise extra money.

**spirituals**—religious folk songs, originally sung by African Americans in the southern United States.

**stalwart**—a loyal, hardworking member of a group, team or cause.

**station**—a stop along the Underground Railroad, often a house, cave or other safe haven.

**steward**— a person in charge of taking care of passengers and the food supply on a ship, train, bus, etc.

**surveillance**—the close observance of someone, especially if that someone's suspected of being a criminal.

**tavern**—a place that serves both food and alcoholic beverages.

**testify**— to make a statement based on personal knowledge or belief.

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**theology**— the study of religion.

**toll station**— a place where a person had to pay money to use a road (like a toll booth on today's interstate highways).

**tracking**— following, trailing.

**Underground Railroad**— the loose, informal network of individuals, hideaways, and safe havens that assisted slaves as they tried to escape to freedom.

**vigilant** — keeping careful watch for danger or trouble.

**vital**— very important; necessary.

**wily**— skillful at tricking or deceiving.

**witness**— someone with personal knowledge of something.

**Yankee**— a name for Northerners used by Southerners.

**yard**— a place, often immediately by the "big house," where slaves performed daily chores and completed tasks.