

# MRS. WEISSMAN - GRADE 2

I introduced my class to one of my heroes, **Harriet Tubman**. I learned about her when I was in elementary school and wanted to teach my students about this strong woman. We read several books and watched a movie about her life. The adjectives the class used to describe Harriet Tubman were *fierce, determined, brave, courageous, and caring*.

Harriet Tubman was born into slavery in Maryland in 1820 and had a very difficult life as a slave. However, she successfully escaped in 1849. This was not easy to do, but she made it to freedom because of her bravery and determination. Once she was free, she could have enjoyed her new life, yet she returned to the South many times to rescue both family members and other slaves. Harriet Tubman led more than three hundred slaves to freedom. She was the most famous "conductor" on the Underground Railroad, a secret network of safe houses used to help slaves escape. Mrs. Weissman's class is amazed by Harriet Tubman's heroic acts!

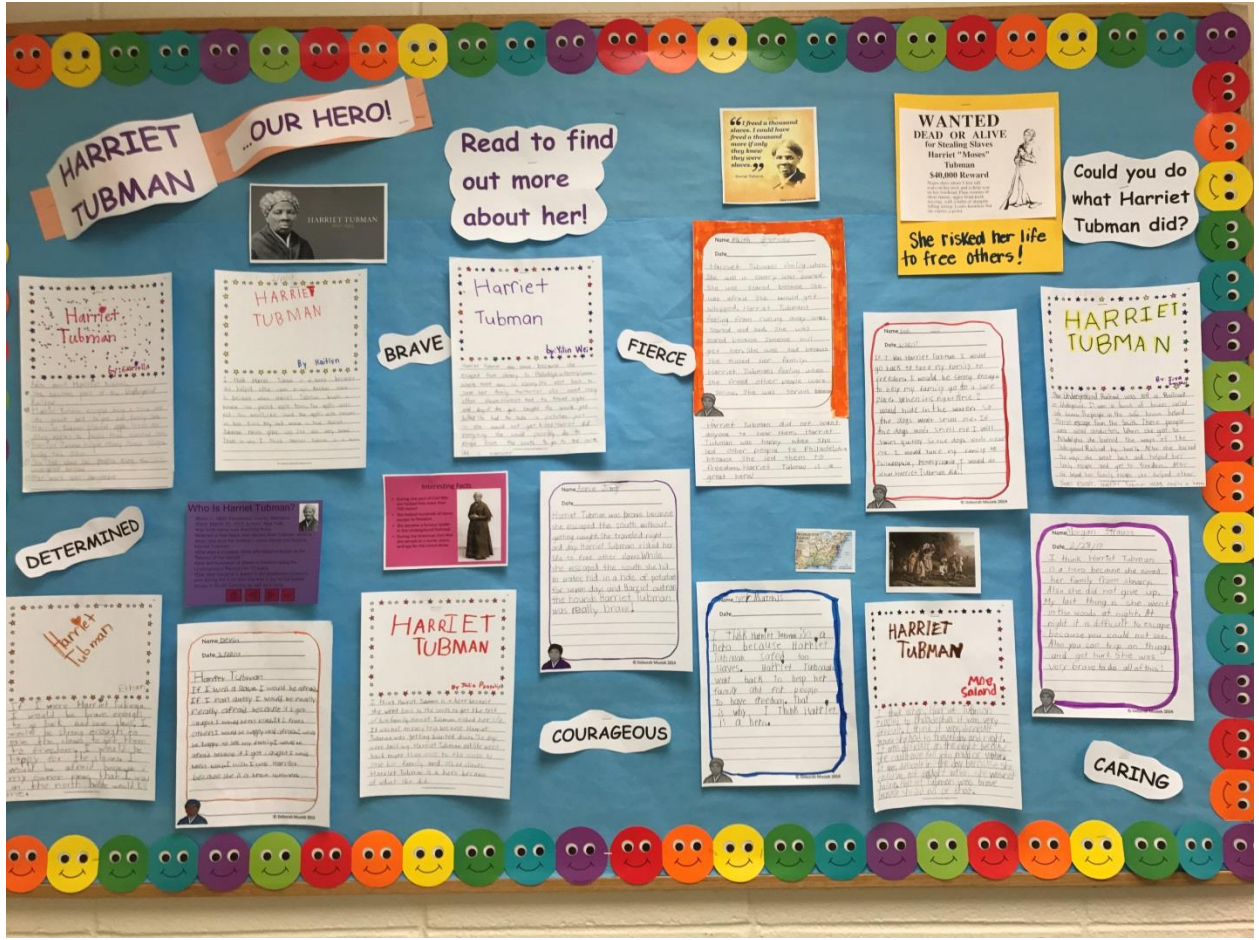
The students made a connection to our school theme of Kindness. In our classroom, we talk about the importance of helping others and the difference we can make in other people's lives. Harriet Tubman is a true example of this. In addition to her help with the Underground Railroad, after slavery was abolished, she dedicated her life to helping former slaves and the elderly. She even established her own Home for the Aged.

We also read the book An Apple for Harriet Tubman. This told the story of when Harriet was a slave and had to pick apples all day in the hot sun, yet she was not allowed to eat any of them. If she did, she

would get a harsh whipping. She vowed that if one day she was free, she would grow apple trees and give apples to everyone. This dream came true for her! Harriet planted rows of apple trees from the road to her home in Auburn, New York for all the townspeople to share. The apple was her symbol for freedom. Harriet Tubman was always "giving back". This is what we should all try to do!

To celebrate Harriet Tubman, the students chose how they wanted to write about her. As a class, they brainstormed several possible topics. Using the information gained through books, poems, video, and research each child wrote their own piece. For example, some children wrote why Harriet Tubman is a hero. Others wrote if they would have been able to do what she did. Come visit our bulletin board to learn about this incredible woman, our hero.... HARRIET TUBMAN!





# HARRIET TUBMAN OUR HERO!

Read to find out more about her!



Could you do what Harriet Tubman did?



**Harriet Tubman**  
by [author]  
[handwritten text]

**HARRIET TUBMAN**  
By [author]  
[handwritten text]

**Harriet Tubman**  
by the [author]  
[handwritten text]

**Harriet Tubman**  
[handwritten text]

**Harriet Tubman**  
[handwritten text]

**HARRIET TUBMAN**  
[handwritten text]

DETERMINED

**Who is Harriet Tubman?**  
[handwritten text]



**Harriet Tubman**  
[handwritten text]



**Harriet Tubman**  
[handwritten text]

**Harriet Tubman**  
[handwritten text]

**Harriet Tubman**  
[handwritten text]

**HARRIET TUBMAN**  
[handwritten text]

COURAGEOUS

**Harriet Tubman**  
[handwritten text]

**HARRIET TUBMAN**  
[handwritten text]

CARING