

# student activity 1

## The Underground Railroad: Fake News vs. Real Truth

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Analyze the statements below about the Underground Railroad. Differentiate between which statements are “fake news” and which are “real truth.” If the statement is false, correct the statement underneath the original claim.

Fake News or Real Truth?	Fake News	Real Truth
1. Underground Railroad operations generally relied heavily on secret codes as railroad jargon alerted “passengers” when travel was safe.		
2. Harriet Tubman made 5 trips to the South and helped deliver at least 300 fellow captives and loved ones to liberation.		
3. Fugitive slaves or suspects could be detained without a warrant and turned over to a slave owner on nothing more than the owner’s sworn testimony.		
4. Most people in the North supported the Underground Railroad and welcomed runaway slaves into their states.		
5. All slaves who escaped went to the North.		
6. Any person aiding a runaway slave by giving him shelter, food, or any sort of assistance was liable to six months’ imprisonment and a \$1,000 fine.		
7. Frederick Douglass was an escaped slave who became a leader in the abolitionist movement, which sought to end the practice of slavery, before and during the Civil War.		
8. The 13th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified in January 1863. This amendment abolished slavery throughout the United States.		

**Answer Key:** 1. Real Truth, 2. Fake News - 19 Trips, 3. Real Truth, 4. Fake News - Only a small minority of people in the North worked on and even supported the Underground Railroad, 5. Fake News - While many slaves ventured North, some escaped to places like Florida to rural, isolated communities, 6. Real Truth, 7. Real Truth, 8. Fake News - December 1865

# student activity 2

## Freedom Bound: Are We There Yet?

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

From the Declaration of Independence, think about the phrase “All men are created equal”. Brainstorm about what the authors meant when they wrote this. Who was this intended for and if we are bound for freedom, are we there yet?

Using the ideas from your brainstorm, pick the most profound word that represents your ideas and write it vertically down the left side of this paper. Write an acrostic poem based on your thoughts regarding freedom and equality.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

