

# Underground Railroad: PATH TO FREEDOM

The Underground Railroad was a secret organization of routes and safe places used by slaves to escape to freedom. Slaves left the southern states and went to the free northern states and Canada, where they could be free. Along the way, people who were against slavery, called abolitionists, would hide the slaves and help them to the next stop along the route.



Started in the early 1800s, the Underground Railroad ended when slavery was abolished during the Civil War. At least 30,000 people used the secret system to make their way to freedom.

## Railroad Terms

The Underground Railroad used railroad terms as a secret code. Some of the terms were:

**Agent:** a person who helped the escaping slave find the railroad.

**Station:** a hiding place, often a home or church

**Conductor:** a person who guided the escaping slaves to the next stop.

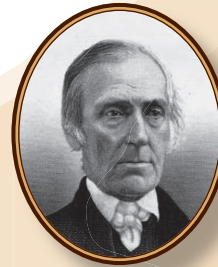
**Station Master:** a person who hid escaping slaves in his home.



William Still was called the Father of the Underground Railroad.



Harriet Tubman, one of the most famous conductors, was known as the "Moses" of the Underground Railroad.



Levi Coffin and his wife, Catherine, helped 2,000 slaves on their road to freedom. Their home in Indiana was known as the "Grand Central Station of the Underground Railroad."

## Q&A

Who was known as the Father of the Underground Railroad?

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In Underground Railroad terms, what was a station?

\_\_\_\_\_

What was an abolitionist?

\_\_\_\_\_

## Secret code

Use the secret code to find a phrase about the Underground Railroad. Write the letter in the blank that matches the number from the code.

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14 15 18 20 8 20 15 6 18 5 5 4 15 13

1 = A	7 = G	13 = M	19 = S	25 = Y
2 = B	8 = H	14 = N	20 = T	26 = Z
3 = C	9 = I	15 = O	21 = U	
4 = D	10 = J	16 = P	22 = V	
5 = E	11 = K	17 = Q	23 = W	
6 = F	12 = L	18 = R	24 = X	