

## MEET ADDY

by

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What do you think of when you hear the word, “freedom?” There was a time in the history of our country when freedom sometimes cost people the loss of family and even their own lives. This is a story about a nine year old slave girl named Addy, and her journey to freedom.

Addy lives in North Carolina during the Civil War on Master Steven’s tobacco farm. Addy and her family work hard as his slaves and wait for the war to be over so they can be free. But times are hard even for the slave owners during the war. Masters are readily selling their slaves for needed money.

Knowing this, Poppa realizes that Master Stevens could very quickly sell any of his slaves. Poppa does not want his family to be separated so he talks to Momma about running away to freedom. Before they have the chance to run away, Master Stevens sells Poppa and her older brother, Sam, to another man. Momma decides that to have any chance of staying together as a family at all, she must take Addy and escape. Momma makes a painful decision to leave her baby, Esther, with Aunt Lula and Uncle Solomon. Momma hopes to reunite with Poppa, Sam, and Esther later. Uncle Solomon gives them directions to the home of Miss Caroline, a white woman who helps runaway slaves.

Wearing disguises and running at night, Momma almost drowns when a swift current in the river breaks their grip. Addy is confronted by a Confederate soldier, but with her quick wit, they finally reach their destination and the safety of Miss Caroline’s home. They are refreshed by Miss Caroline’s kindness and rest for the night. Before sunup the next morning, Miss Caroline hides them in a wagon and takes them to the coast for them to board a ship to Philadelphia ... to freedom.

### Suggested Activities

#### Vocabulary

1. Increase your vocabulary by finding each word in its context. Reread the sentences before and after the word. Do you understand the meaning of the word? Now, look up the word in the dictionary and write a clear, simple definition, and use it in a sentence.
  - a. protected (Chapter 1)
  - b. hearth (Chapter 1)
  - c. kerchiefs (Chapter 3)
  - d. eerie (Chapter 4)
  - e. desperately (Chapter 5)
2. Complete the sentences with the correct vocabulary word. OR Write your own sentences using the vocabulary words.

- a. The woods looked \_\_\_\_\_ in the moonlight.
- b. Momma packed the food in her \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Addy loved her baby sister and \_\_\_\_\_ her from harm.
- d. Addy ran \_\_\_\_\_ to tell Poppa about Master Steven's plans.
- e. Momma swept the ashes from the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Discussion Questions

### Chapter 1

1. What made Addy feel safe in her home?
2. Before Addy heard what Momma and Poppa were talking about, she lay in her bed away from Esther because it was a warm night. After she heard the discussion, she moved close to Esther and put her arms around her. Why do you think Addy did this?

### Chapter 2

3. What was Sam's riddle. What does it mean?
4. When Addy found Poppa on the ground, tied up and ready to be taken away by a new slave owner, she hugged him and cried. What thoughts do you think may have been going through Poppa's mind?

### Chapter 3

5. Why does Momma not want Addy to hate the white people?
6. In what ways was the disguise going to help Addy and Momma?

### Chapter 4

7. There was no special "magic" in the cowrie necklace that Momma gave Addy, but Momma gave it to her for strength and courage. How do you think this necklace can help Addy when she is feeling sad or scared?
8. Tell your teacher what happened when Momma and Addy had to cross the river.

### Chapter 5

9. When Addy was mistaken for one of the Confederate's slave boys, she acted calmly. What might have happened if she got scared and tried to run away?
10. Describe how you think Addy and Momma felt in the safety of Miss Caroline's home?

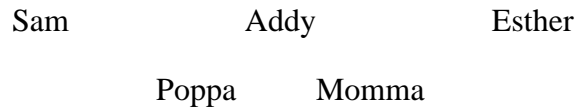
## Decision Making

Momma's decision to run away to freedom with Addy was a difficult one. If they remained with Master Stevens, although they were safe, the best they would have is a cornhusk bed and gruel to eat. There were many things she thought of before she made her decision. Read the following

situations Momma thought about. Decide if the situations made her decide to stay in slavery or run away to freedom. Addy could get an education. Momma could work and earn money. They would have hope for their future. Master Stevens might split up Addy and Momma. They would be free.

### Family Tree Diagram

Here is an example of Addy's family tree.



Now, draw your family tree. You may add more people by drawing additional branches.