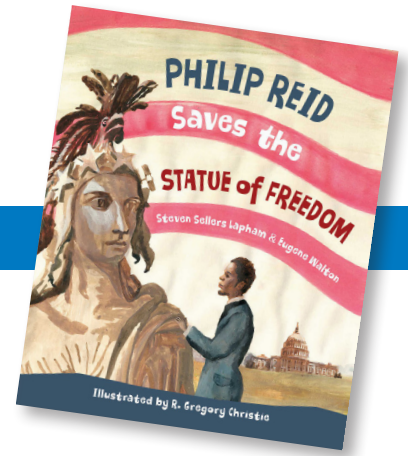


Philip Reid Saves the Statue of Freedom



A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Problem-Solving, Black History

Book Brief: A talented artisan, Philip Reid solves the problem of how to take apart the Statue of Freedom so that it can be cast in bronze and put on top of our nation's Capitol dome.

Authors: Steven Sellers Lapham and Eugene Walton

Illustrator:

R. Gregory Christie

Content

Connections:

Science, Math,
Social Studies, Art

TIME TO READ!



BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Ask students if they recognize the building on the cover. What role do they think Philip Reid had in saving the statue?

The Pictures: Do the pictures give insight as to what Philip's life as a slave may have been like?

Prior Knowledge: Talk with students about when the book is set. This video shares a brief history and

points out Philip Reid's and other enslaved workers' contributions to the Capitol and the Statue of Freedom: www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1qqqI9prX8.

Vocabulary: bellows, kiln, cast, foundry

Purpose for Reading: As we read, use what you know and evidence from the text to understand the history behind the Statue of Freedom. What did it represent before, during, and after casting?



WHILE WE READ

MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ How does it affect people when they cannot use their real names? Explain.
- ◆ Where do you think Betsy found her hope?

- ◆ How would life in Washington, DC, be different from life in Charleston?
- ◆ What character traits best describe Philip?
- ◆ Describe the significance of Philip's getting paid for Sundays.

LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: "What is irony? Based on what you know about this time period and what you learned from the book, what *irony* can you find in the process of putting the Statue of Freedom on the Capitol?"

Extending Our Thinking: Brainstorm with a partner what you think went through Philip's mind when Mr. Mills volunteered him that day. "What do you think the Statue of Freedom stands for today? Why is it important?"

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



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