



# FREDERICK DOUGLASS: ABOLITIONIST

by Wolfgang Drawbaugh

Frederick Douglass was born into slavery in February 1818 on a plantation in Maryland. Douglass was separated from his mother as an infant and lived for a time with his maternal grandmother. However, at the age of six, he was moved away from her to live and work elsewhere. Douglass learned the alphabet at a young age and eventually taught himself to read and write using the Bible.

He eventually escaped from slavery and moved to New York before settling down in New Bedford, MA with his wife. Douglass helped fight slavery and actively supported the women's suffrage movement. He gave huge presentations about a range of important issues like women's rights and Irish home rights. As an American social reformer, Douglass was a firm believer in equality and wanted to unite people of all races.

**“If there is no struggle, there is no progress.”**

**Did You Know?** In 1843, Douglass led a six-month speaking tour through the United States as a member of the American Anti-Slavery Society.

