

COOLIDGE CORNER SCHOOL RENAMING SEMI-FINALIST PROFILES



HARRIET TUBMAN: ABOLITIONIST

by Emily Snyder

Harriet Tubman was an American abolitionist and political activist. She was born to an enslaved family in Dorchester County, Maryland on January 29, 1820. As a child, Tubman was repeatedly whipped and beaten by her various slaveholders and suffered a severe head wound as a result. Despite battling a tough life as a child, she grew up to become an extraordinary person.

Tubman and her brothers escaped from slavery in Baltimore in 1849. Over the next few years, she returned to Maryland thirteen times to help save seventy enslaved people, family and friends, using a well know network called the Underground Railroad. As a runaway slave herself, Harriet Tubman risked her life to help other people attain freedom. Despite the best efforts of the slaveholders, Tubman was never captured, and neither were the fugitives she guided.

"Every great dream begins with a dreamer."

Did You Know?
Tubman helped the
Union army in the
American Civil War
by acting as a scout
and spy.

