

Reflection

SPEAK UP!

The Lincoln School Marchers carried “protest signs.” A protest sign displays a short statement about an important idea. Make your own protest sign! Pretend you’re a Lincoln School Marcher and make a sign for the daily march to school, or make a sign about another important topic. Your protest sign should share an idea that you care a lot about. You can use paper, poster board, or recycled materials like a cardboard or cereal box. Design your sign in the space below.



March to Freedom
by Kaleem Musa

The march to freedom may not be short,
But like the Lincoln Marchers, we stay the course.
Sometimes you have to show up every day,
Even when they tell you to “Go away!”
It may get lonely, ask the Lincoln Marchers,
But with our collective strength, we will not falter.
The march to justice is long from anywhere,
But if we fight for what is right, we will get there!

Special Thanks

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Daydreamer Kids

The Lincoln School Marchers of Hillsboro, Ohio

In the United States, every child has the right to a free education that prepares them to thrive in the world. Today, children of different races go to school together. However, many years ago, schools were segregated. In most towns, white children went to different schools than Black children and children from other racial groups. White children’s schools had more money and better buildings, books, and equipment.

In 1954, a group of Black mothers in Hillsboro, Ohio decided that their children should be able to attend one of the better schools in town: Webster Elementary. Webster Elementary was for white children, and Black children attended the Lincoln School. By that time, school segregation was illegal, but the Hillsboro town leaders kept their elementary schools segregated anyway.

Every day for two years, the mothers and their children marched to Webster Elementary declaring that Black children should be allowed to go to school there, but every day, they were turned away. The mothers went to court to defend their children’s right to go to any school in town. In 1956, a judge decided that Black children must be allowed to attend Webster Elementary.

Today, local governments can’t legally segregate schools based on children’s race. However, discrimination and inequality in schools continue in practice. Like the Lincoln School Marchers, we can speak out against unfair laws and practices. Their determination teaches us that speaking up and taking action against wrongdoings can make a big difference.

Key Words: *thrive*: to do well, to be successful;
segregated: unfairly separated based on people’s race



A Mother's Haiku



What is a Haiku?

A haiku is a three-line poem. The poetic form originated in Japan, and though haiku are traditionally about nature, a haiku can be about any topic. In a haiku, the first line has five syllables, the second line has seven syllables, and the third line has five syllables.

The Marching Mothers

The haiku below are based on the reflections of Lincoln School Marchers Myra Phillips and Joyce Clemons Kittrell. They shared memories of the Marching Mothers in a town newsletter.

Sallie Williams

Always wore a dress
That swung above her ankles
Hanging clothes out back

Gertrude Clemons

Just let me go home
Finish up my ironing
Then take me to jail

Your Haiku

Write a haiku about a mother you love. Try to use the format of 5/7/5 syllables, but don't worry if your lines are longer or shorter.

Marching Math

The march to Webster Elementary was 2 miles. When the marchers got to the school, they were turned away and walked back home. How many total miles did they walk each day?

_____ + _____ = _____



The March To Webster School Maze



Know Their Names

Ms. Imogene Curtis

Coming to church every Sunday
Bringing her two children along
Wearing her Sunday-go-to meeting hat
Sitting perfectly on her head
Teaching Sunday School
Giving advice where needed

* Adapted from reflections by Myra Phillips



WFKBBERPOTWDAKXKWSKDLASRZMDFS
IUFVKQGLUXTELI XMRAQNDPPRSFKUTE
GPCJZBRZCPVIBBSSKJHBEJUOSIWBRL
NPHKGS COSZSWEZPDNUMJOESBBBOQOI
OWRXLULCNSSTNRCMGPHEKWZYEWNJXXC
YRAATUATMEDWTUOKINEGKHDAQB JCIK
YUGEVE SHLG YWAGBUVGNVOUCWSMEEA
JVVUMKJLIWZJQPYEVR CUZAKLFJXJ
ZFKFXWYRNM YHNKBTHVZUWYSTTPVDWQ
UDWGWZORAQFCXFDHNZHZELAFRC SQU
RNQHI VMFZIZBTVCWHZGGSINNEPUPY
WKYBM INNEL LIEEAVFGQKDUHIXLGDAQ
RDZOLZLMEUGBMXFQWETUMCCAFEXZ
NTNGMMNQCLGEHMINNIEFMXQOYRLBC
CKPWERBOZTSURIOGDZXYMDXIYHNL SG
YUSTNOZFORIGTHDEMAXINEQCIHZIFL
XNASEZCSCMEKRUYWAF LPJUHFE GMAOE
EKXBDJ IRTKHUSVWBDUGITUNSBRTA
OJT TIBOGOSKNDAPKZFNC EIBBBFJCV
COPXXQAZEYBIETLPZKUNHMKASUGKZ
HKLJPSNXMNRZZQGDVKTVOITOFRLMLC
QEYNJCNQRMGOZBECIBQBHUEIHERVIF
RJQGDWEUDXFICNDSALLIEYIGIJJQER
FMDHALBERTAGSROYRJSKHBOZUXGPXA
KHMOASEFDNAJALEPPSFGNVMYEENHQN
KIMOFFCPTOZKCDQWNB CNHQADYDJKKC
MKJGIZDELLAQZGUOSLJDLKH FYHOAI
HXOEAKCYPMMANUVARHYPABLHIOTOIS
GFXRSBHNUADETWGEMYP TAMZSSZAANTL
LYNCY YQMYBPDPZOPAZZFBDPEVMXQEN

Say Her Name Word Search

Nineteen Marching Mothers led the children of Hillsboro on the march to Webster Elementary every school day for two years. We must remember and honor people who dare to take action to help make the world a better place for all.

AlbertaJ	Sallie	Dellia
Selicka	Nellie	Della
Joanne	Roxie	Zella
Minnie	Gertrude	Elsie
Norma	Imogene	Zora
AlbertaG	Maxine	Glea
Francis		

Case Files

In 1954, the highest court in the United States—the Supreme Court—decided that schools could not separate children based on their race. That case is called *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, and it inspired the Marching Mothers to act. Later that year, Marching Mothers in Hillsboro sued their school board. That case is called *Clemons vs. Board of Education of Hillsboro*. They won their court case in 1956. Our society must continue to work to make sure all children attend equally good schools.