

# What We Learned Today

## at the Lathrop House

Today your student visited the Lathrop House for a field trip. They toured the grounds and got to learn about the role Ohio and Sylvania played in the Underground Railroad. Below is an outline of what they learned and questions you can ask them to further reinforce and engage with the day they had today.

### **Abolitionists**

We discussed what an abolitionist is and the different ways that an abolitionist might participate in the Underground Railroad. We also brainstormed why an abolitionist might not participate in the Underground Railroad.

**Ask your student:** *What does it mean to be an abolitionist?*

### **The Underground Railroad**

We talked about what the Underground Railroad is and how it worked, particularly in Ohio.

**Ask your student:** *Why is it called the Underground Railroad?*

### **The Lathrops**

The house your student was in was owned by Lucian Lathrop and was built in 1850. Your student learned about the building, the Lathrop Family, and their efforts on the Underground Railroad.

**Ask your student:** *What was one of the Jobs Lucian Lathrop had in his lifetime?*

*Ans: Hotel Manager, Deputy Sheriff, Minister, State Representative, Station Master*

## Freedom

We brainstormed what freedom means after reading a story about the underground railroad. Paying close attention to how different characters in the book might have different interpretations of freedom. Afterwards students had the chance to write what freedom means to them and display it on the wall at the Lathrop House.

***Ask your student:*** *What did you say freedom means to you?*

## The Ravine

We had the chance to go down into the ravine to see the landscape and topography of Harroun park. This park separates the Lathrop House to the Harroun Barns. This area was once used to travel between both locations when on the Underground Railroad.

***Ask your student:*** *What was the natural feature in the park that escaping slaves would follow to get to the Lathrop House?*

*Ans: The Ravine*

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