Frederick

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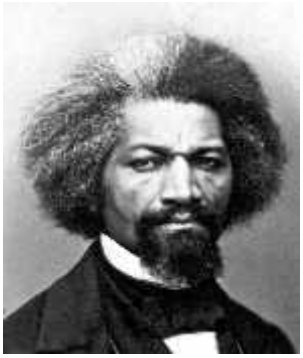
Education

Name _____ Date _____



Frederick was born a slave in Maryland around 1818. He rarely saw his mother and she died when he was eleven. Slaves were treated very poorly. Many were given very little food and clothing and they were often beaten or whipped. One time, when Frederick was young, he stole a bag used to carry corn and slept inside it to keep warm. While still a young boy, Frederick was given to Mr. and Mrs. auld in Baltimore. Mrs. Auld began teaching Frederick to read, but Mr. Auld disapproved and put an end to it. Frederick continued learning secretly, however. The more he read, the more he realized how wrong slavery was. As a teenager, Frederick began teaching other slaves how to read and write, and at one point, he had 40 students. After a couple of failed attempts to escape, Frederick finally found freedom in New York where he stayed with a nice man named David Ruggles. He later became an important figure in the abolitionist (anti-slavery) movement, and affected many people with his eloquent speaking and writing. He held many government posts and was even once nominated for Vice President of the United States. Frederick Douglass died in 1895.

1. What state was Frederick born in? _____

_____

2. What did young Frederick steal to sleep in so that he could keep warm? _____

_____

3. Who first began teaching Frederick how to read? _____

_____

4. What movement did Frederick become and important leader of? _____

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