

# CURRICULUM GUIDE

978-0-310-79382-3



## THE MAGNIFICENT MISCHIEF OF TAD LINCOLN

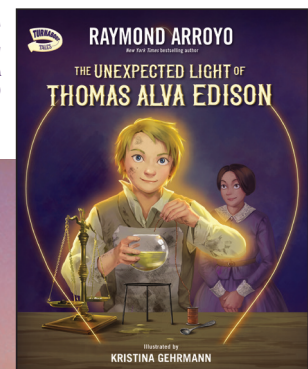
BY  
RAYMOND ARROYO

ILLUSTRATED BY  
JACQUI DAVIS

**F**ROM *New York Times* bestselling author and news anchor Raymond Arroyo comes a fun picture book biography of Tad Lincoln, beloved youngest son of President Abraham Lincoln. This humorous and loving romp through history will teach children about the power of curiosity, imagination, friendship, empathy, determination . . . and even a little mischief!

 ZONDERkidz™  
.com

ALSO IN THE  
TURNABOUT TALES SERIES



978-0-310-79923-8



Challenges Faced. Paths Changed. History Turned.

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



How did Abraham Lincoln's son Thomas get the nickname Tad?



What does it mean to play a "prank" on somebody? Give an example of a prank Tad plays on his father. (See the illustrations on pages 4-5 for an idea.)



What lesson is President Lincoln trying to teach his sons when he shares the story about shooting a wild turkey?



How does Tad make the jobs of the White House staff difficult when the Lincoln family moves into the White House?



Describe Mrs. Lincoln's attitude toward her children's behavior in the White House.



How does life in the White House change for the Lincoln family once the Civil War starts?



Look carefully at the illustration on page 17. Compare the expressions on the faces of President Lincoln and his secretary. What do you guess each person is thinking when Tad interrupts their meeting?



How do Tad and Willie incorporate what is happening in the Civil War into their playtime at the White House?



The White House gardener suggests that Tad and his friends "pardon" Jack the doll instead of burying the doll in the White House flower beds. What does it mean to "pardon" someone?



Look carefully at the illustrations on pages 18-21. How does the illustrator create feelings of loss and sadness when Willie passes away?



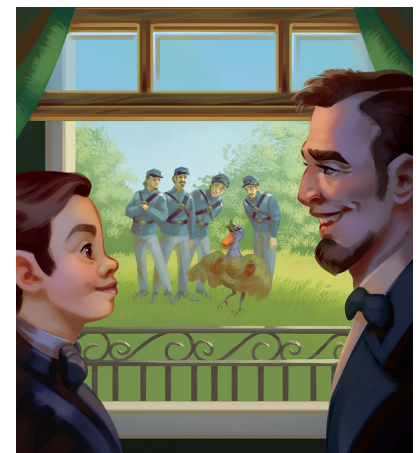
After Willie dies, Tad becomes his father's shadow. What does it mean to become someone's shadow? Give examples from the story that show how Tad becomes President Lincoln's shadow.



Describe the special friendship between Tad and Jack the turkey. Why do you think Tad develops such a strong bond with Jack?



What Thanksgiving tradition do Tad and Abraham Lincoln start that presidents continue to follow to this day?





# ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS

## Q&A

Choose a character from the story to interview. What questions would you ask to learn more about the character? Write a script of your questions and supply answers from your chosen character's perspective. With a partner, perform your script for your class.

## A TIMELINE OF TAD

Create a timeline of events in the story. Arrange a piece of paper horizontally and draw a line across the middle of the page. Look through the story for important events in the life of Tad Lincoln. On the timeline, write and arrange in the correct order brief descriptions of these key events.

## TAD LINCOLN CHARACTER POSTER

Make a sketch of Tad in the center of a piece of white drawing paper. Surround your character sketch with pictures of things that were important to Tad. Label each item that you draw and include a title for your character poster.



Select any emoji that represents your overall feeling about the story. Draw an illustration of the part of the story that represents your reaction. Include sentences to describe what is happening in the illustration and reasons for your emotional reaction.



The discussion questions, activities, and worksheets in this guide were created by Leigh Courtney, Ph.D. She teaches in the Global Education program at a public elementary school in San Diego, California. She holds both master's and doctoral degrees in education, with an emphasis on curriculum and instruction.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# VOCABULARY HUNT

Look through the story with a partner. Place a post-it note on a page in the book that has a word that is unfamiliar to you. Repeat this process until you have at least four words. Fill in the vocabulary boxes below with the unfamiliar words and make guesses at their meanings based on the rest of the sentences in which the words appear. Then, look up each word in a dictionary and write its formal definition.



Word from the story	What we think the word means	The dictionary definition of the word

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# MAKING CONNECTIONS



How do you connect to this story of mischievous Tad Lincoln? Think about the ways this book reminds you of other books, of events in your life, and the world. Record your answers in the chart.

## TEXT TO TEXT

Connections you can make between this story and other stories, characters, and book settings.

Blank space for writing connections between the story and other stories, characters, and book settings.

## TEXT TO SELF

Connections you can make between this story and your own experiences with family, friends, and places.

Blank space for writing connections between the story and the student's own experiences with family, friends, and places.

## TEXT TO WORLD

Broader connections you can make to the larger world—to things you have seen or learned from television, movies, newspapers, travel, etc.

Blank space for writing broader connections to the larger world, including television, movies, newspapers, and travel.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# DIGGING FOR ARTIFACTS

An artifact is an object that has some meaning or importance attached to it. Think of all the objects that are part of this story. Select three artifacts from the text and draw and label them below. In full sentences, explain what makes each artifact significant.



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---