



2010

Frederick Douglass: Fugitive Slave and Abolitionist

Lauren Bangerter

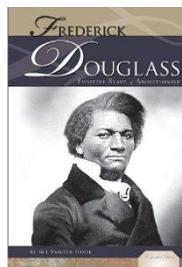
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Bangerter, Lauren (2010) "Frederick Douglass: Fugitive Slave and Abolitionist," *Children's Book and Media Review*. Vol. 31 : Iss. 4 , Article 12.

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Vander Hook, Sue. *Frederick Douglass: Fugitive Slave and Abolitionist*. ABDO, 2011. ISBN 9781616135133. \$26.00. 112 p.

Reviewer: Lauren Bangerter

Reading level: Intermediate, Young adult

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Informative; Biographies

Subject: Douglass, Frederick, 1818-1895--Juvenile literature; Abolitionists--United States--Biography--Juvenile literature; African American abolitionists--Biography--Juvenile literature; Books--Reviews;

For a slave, Frederick Douglas had an enjoyable childhood—he said he was a “happy boy, upon whom troubles fall only like water on a duck’s back.” He soon, however, discovered what it meant to be a slave when he was separated from his family. Eventually he was sent to live with a family who treated him more as an equal than as a slave and taught him how to read. This education spurred him to fight against slavery all his life. He eventually ran away from his owner and became a leading abolitionist. After publishing his autobiography, he gained international fame. He lived to see his dreams come to pass and died in a slave-free United States.

This biography gives an engaging account of Douglas’s life, from his birth as a slave in a cabin to his witnessing the effects of the Emancipation Proclamation. It includes more than just rote facts and illustrates who Douglas was by stories and anecdotes from his life. Well-researched and inspiring, this book makes an easy, quick resource for anyone wanting to learn more about Frederick Douglas and slavery in America. A helpful time line, glossary, source notes, and index are all included in the back.

Volume 31, no. 4 (March/April 2011)