A SLAVE BOY WHO RAN AWAY: WILLIAM HENRY SINGLETON'S RESISTANCE TO SLAVERY
STUDENT HANDOUT 2: DIARY WRITING ASSIGNMENT

William Henry Singleton's slave narrative was written when he was an old man looking back on his life and recalling memories of resisting slavery from childhood through adulthood. In this exercise, you will write about Singleton's experiences using his imagined "voice" when he was a six or seven-year-old slave boy. Ask yourself how Singleton would express his thoughts, feelings, and experiences in his first-person voice when he was a very young child? Using the information provided in William Henry Singleton's narrative and the information that your teacher provided about him, write a diary entry for one or more days (at least one half page per day) that describes what young Singleton was thinking and feeling when he was running away.

The first sentence of your diary entry should be "I was sent by my mistress to town on an errand, but I decided to run away."

Teachers may use and reproduce the material on the Crafting Freedom website for instructional purposes.

© 2009 The Apprend Foundation