# The Assassination of President Lincoln

**Meghan Ronin**

## Part of a Unit of Study

As previously stated, the students will be reading a story about Abraham Lincoln and talking about his life not only in their language arts class, but also in their history class. What makes Abraham Lincoln's death so tragic is that it was an assassination. The country should have been working hard to bring the states back together and the North should have been celebrating, but instead, the country was morning the loss of their leader. One aspect of Lincoln's life that the students will explore in this lesson is Lincoln's death. The Library of Congress website does an awesome job of presenting various texts about what happened. For the lesson, the students are to first go to the website below.

http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/alhtml/alrintr.html

This gives a brief introduction as to exactly how Lincoln was assassinated and what happened to those involved. Included in this link is a timeline with dates and specifics of what happened. In addition, there is a gallery containing actual scanned documents from that time period about what happened to Lincoln. There are actual photographs, drawings, flyers and newspaper publishing from that era that would be very interesting to the students and beneficial for them to look at.

After the students have navigated their way through the website, they are to write an extended response in their journals and answer the two following questions.

1. The students are to think about how it would have been different if Lincoln was a president and assassinated in today's world. How would the media coverage be different today in comparison to what the reporters noted in the newspapers of that time?
2. How would the two men accused be treated differently than they would in the world of that time period.

The students are to respond in at least a page of written work. They may feel free to express their ideas and opinions about what happened and again, how it would be different in today's time.