Abraham Lincoln’s Baltimore Address, Lesson One

Level: Grades 3-12

Today I’ll be kicking off a series of lessons related to this document, a copy of the Baltimore Address, hand written by Abraham Lincoln. The Baltimore Address was a speech that Abraham Lincoln gave on April 18, 1864 at an event to raise money for wounded soldiers in Baltimore Maryland during the third year of the Civil War. We’ll look closely at what he said in the speech in the next several days. But before we look at what he said in the speech, I want you to think about the reasons why a president gives speeches, especially during wartime and think about what you might say in a speech during the Civil War.

Why do you think presidents give speeches?

Imagine you are the president of the United States and you are addressing a crowd of soldiers and their families during the third year of the Civil War. Remember that most people thought the war would only last a few months.

What would you say?

What do you think the people that were listening to the speech wanted to hear?

For more information on the Civil War, please visit
https://classroom.freckle.com/#/social-studies-units/3edff3bb-d597-4719-ae57-83d48453dbfd