

Clara Barton

Podcast Length: 14:46
Character Value: Compassion
Health Message: Vitamin C

Synopsis

Today's Walking Classroom podcast discusses America's great humanitarian, Clara Barton. Barton began as a nurse working in an infirmary during the Civil War, but soon she was treating soldiers on the battlefield. She raised money for supplies and traveled through the night in wagons to help those in need. After working for the Red Cross in France, Barton established the American Red Cross.

Objectives

- Summarize key moments in Clara Barton's life.
- Discuss the power of humanitarianism to improve the lives of others.
- Compare and contrast Barton's contributions to the fields of education and medicine.

Procedure

If you want to compare student comprehension before and after listening, administer the Comprehension Quiz before doing anything related to the podcast. Retest after walking.

1. Review key vocabulary (included definitions are limited to the context of today's podcast).
 - **infirmary (noun):** a place to care for sick people with basic care and supplies
The boy's stomach was cramping so he was sent to the infirmary.
 - **humanitarian (noun):** someone who works to improve the lives and living conditions of others
Clara Barton was a humanitarian who bravely helped soldiers during and after the Civil War.
 - **lobbying (verb):** trying to influence the political process
During the fall, the senator was lobbying for school reform.
2. Build background by asking students, "Who was Clara Barton? What do you know about her?"
3. Allow time for discussion.
4. Podcast preview: "How many of you have paused to put others' needs before your own? Today we're going to learn more about Clara Barton, a woman who devoted her life to helping others. Ready? Let's go!"
5. Walk!

Questions for Thought and Discussion

Upon return to the classroom, discuss the main ideas and content from the podcast using the questions and suggested answers below.

1. **What were some of the big ideas of this podcast?**
 - ✓ As a young girl, Barton enjoyed taking care of the animals on her father's farm. When her brother, David, fell off the roof, she spent two years nursing him back to health.
 - ✓ Barton began as a nurse working in an infirmary during the Civil War, but soon she was treating soldiers on the battlefield.
 - ✓ After working for the Red Cross in France, Barton established the American Red Cross.
2. **Barton had a tremendous impact on everyone she encountered.**
 - a. **What were her humanitarian contributions to education?**
 - ✓ When Barton taught summer school, she was going to be paid less than a male teacher. Instead, she fought for equal pay for female teachers.
 - b. **What were her contributions to medicine?**
 - ✓ She learned about the International Red Cross while visiting Switzerland and brought the organization to America by founding the American Red Cross. The American Red Cross helps hospitals maintain blood supplies.
 - c. **What were her contributions to the Civil War?**
 - ✓ Barton worked as nurse during the Civil War and treated the soldiers on the battlefield. She also raised money for medical supplies.
3. **Barton showed great compassion on the battlefield. Why is compassion important?**
 - ✓ Suggestion: Compassion is showing concern for others. It is important to consider others' needs like Barton did when helping the soldiers on the battlefield.

Clara Barton Comprehension Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Clara Barton was
 - a. a woman who devoted her life to helping others.
 - b. a soldier during the Civil War.
 - c. the founder of Barton College.

2. The Red Cross is an important organization because
 - a. It helps maintain hospital blood supplies.
 - b. It helps people recover from disasters like floods, fires and earthquakes.
 - c. both a and b

3. Why was Clara Barton known as "The Angel of the Battlefield"?
 - a. Her middle name was Angel.
 - b. She wore a pin on her uniform that represented angel wings and a halo.
 - c. She was so good at helping and comforting soldiers.

4. Infirmary means
 - a. someone who is very ill.
 - b. a place to care for sick people.
 - c. someplace strong and well-supported.

5. What word would best describe Clara Barton?
 - a. selfish
 - b. brave
 - c. cautious

6. Which of the following is an opinion about Clara Barton?
 - a. During the Civil War, she traveled from battle to battle, nursing soldiers.
 - b. After the war, she worked to locate over 22,000 missing soldiers.
 - c. She was a kind humanitarian who led an extraordinary life.

7. Number the events in the order in which they happened. (1, 2, 3)
 Barton opened a free public school where she educated six hundred students.
 Barton helped nurse her brother, David, back to health after a serious fall.
 Barton founded the American Red Cross.

8. Why didn't Clara Barton ever marry or raise a family?
 - a. She disliked children.
 - b. She believed that having a family held women back from their true purposes.
 - c. She was too busy improving the lives of others through education and medicine.

9. Vitamin C helps to produce collagen which helps skin heal.
 - a. true
 - b. false

10. Rice and white bread are good sources of Vitamin C.
 - a. true
 - b. false