

Step into the world of a young African American girl during the Civil War.



Meet Addy Walker, An American Girl

In the fiction stories by Connie Porter, Addy is a nine-year-old girl born into slavery who escapes to freedom with her mother during the Civil War. Join her as we explore Addy's world at the Museum.

Slave Ship Model ▶ 1 East, On the

Water, Forced Crossings—Addy learns that her great-grandmother was taken from Africa and forced to cross the ocean in the hold of a slave ship. Look at this model of a slave ship. Can you imagine being chained in place? How would you get fresh air, food, or water?

▶ Go to the nearby “Life at Sea” audio station and listen to Olaudah Equiano’s description of the terror and sickness he experienced as an eleven-year-old captive aboard a slave ship in 1756.



Slave Cabin ▶ 2 West, Communities in a Changing Nation—

When Addy makes the dangerous escape from slavery, she gives her doll, Janie, to her baby sister, Esther, who is too little to come with her. Why do you think she gives away her only doll? How do you think an enslaved child feels about having her very own doll? ▶ Can you find the two dolls in this setting? (Hint: one is up high and one is hidden.)

Antislavery Alphabet ▶ 2 West, Within These Walls, The Caldwells—

Addy and her family have help from abolitionists. These were people who wanted to abolish, or end, slavery because it was evil. They used books like this to teach others about the horrors of slavery. ▶

Look at the book. Listen to the songs you can hear near the piano. What is their antislavery message?



Emancipation Proclamation ▶ 3 Center, *The American Presidency, National Leader* section—In her story, Addy reads a copy of the Emancipation Proclamation at her church. ▶ **Look at this printed version of the document. What stories do the pictures tell?**



Mended Cotton Dress ▶ 3 East, *The Price of Freedom* (enter the double doors near the escalator)—Addy’s mother is a seamstress. A simple dress like this one would have been easy for her to make, compared to fancy ones she made in the dress shop. ▶ **Women who served as nurses during the Civil War would have worn plain dresses like this one. Besides caring for the soldiers, they helped them write letters to loved ones. What might a soldier say in a letter?**

Battle Flag of the Louisiana 84th Infantry, U.S. Colored Troops ▶ 3 East, *The Price of Freedom*—Addy’s brother, Sam, serves as a soldier in the United States Colored Troops. During the Civil War, African Americans had their own units because they were not allowed to serve in the same units as white soldiers. ▶ **An African American regiment carried this flag. Its members painted the names of battles they fought on it. What battle did they fight in 1863?**



Choosing Sides Stamping Station ▶ 3 East, *The Price of Freedom* (center of room)—Congratulations, you are almost done! Find the stamping station in the center of this room and mark this box with the U.S. stamp. ▶ **Go to the Museum store in 1 Center, show your stamp, and receive a gift.**



To learn more about American Girl’s historical character Addy, please visit: americangirl.com. Find more family fun activities at americanhistory.si.edu/ourstory/addy/.



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