

## Role Model Medal

### Parent Guide

*Read the “Directions” sheets for step-by-step instructions.*

#### SUMMARY

In this activity, children will create a pin to honor a female role model in their lives..

#### WHY

This activity will encourage children to think about a woman in their life that they admire and the reasons why this woman is a role model.

#### TIME

- 45 minutes

#### RECOMMENDED AGE GROUP

This activity will work best for children in 1st through 4th grade.

#### GET READY

- Read *Mama Went to Jail for the Vote*. This book is a work of historical fiction about the woman suffrage movement. For tips on reading this book together, check out the **Guided Reading Activity** ([http://americanhistory.si.edu/ourstory/pdf/suffrage/suffrage\\_reading.pdf](http://americanhistory.si.edu/ourstory/pdf/suffrage/suffrage_reading.pdf)).
- Read the **Step Back in Time** sheets.

#### YOU NEED

- **Directions** sheets (*attached*)
- **Step Back in Time** sheets (*attached*)
- **ThinkAbout** sheet (*attached*)
- *Mama Went to Jail for the Vote* book (*optional*)
- Glue
- Juice can lid (*from the end of a tube of frozen juice concentrate*)
- Scissors
- 1 safety pin back (*can be purchased at art/craft store*)
- Pencil and colored pencils
- 1 sheet of white construction paper

More information at <http://americanhistory.si.edu/ourstory/activities/suffrage/>.

## Role Model Medal

### *Step Back in Time*, page 1 of 2

For more information, visit the National Museum of American History Web site <http://americanhistory.si.edu/ourstory/activities/suffrage/>.

**V**oting is one of the main ways that people can direct the government and change laws.

Women had voted in some colonies and early states but after 1807 no women could vote in the United States. In 1848 a group of women, and men, concerned with women's right held a convention and signed the Declaration of Sentiments. The Declaration was modeled after the Declaration of Independence and demanded rights for women, including the right to vote. Despite their efforts, women could only vote in nine states by the time the parade in this story takes place.

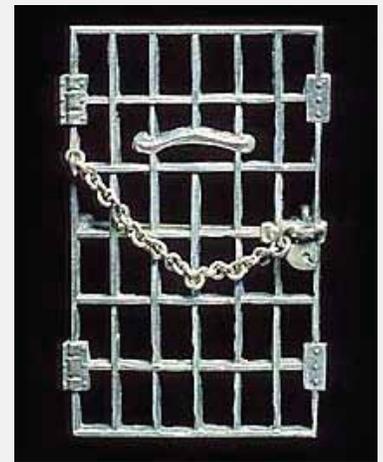
Woman suffragists were the first group to organize pickets outside of the White House. They created banners and stood

outside the White House gates to show the signs to the President and members of the public.

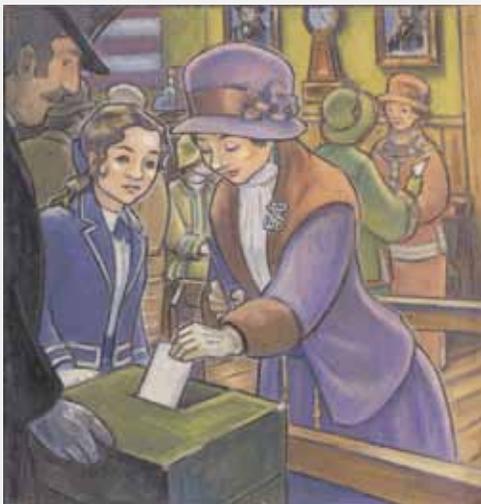
Although they were peaceful, some who disagreed with their protests sometimes started fights and hurt the suffragists.

Throughout the woman suffrage movement, over 150 suffragists were put in jail, mostly in Virginia and Washington, D.C. Life in the jails was tough and dirty, and the women weren't treated well.

Some women wanted to show the American public how unfair it was that they were in jail, so they refused to eat while behind bars. They were



Jailed for Freedom pin  
The National Museum of American History owns three "Jailed for Freedom" pins that belonged to Lucille Calmes, Amelia Walker, and Alice Paul.



Mama voting at the precinct  
from *Mama Went to Jail for the Vote*

## Role Model Medal

*Step Back in Time, page 2 of 2*

forcibly fed by their jailers. After they were let out of jail, the suffragists were given special “Jailed for Freedom” pins, to show proudly that they had stayed in jail to help get the right to vote for women.

Alice Paul, one of the leaders in the protests, had been a part of the woman suffrage movement in England. When she came back to the United States, she reused some of the strong British tactics in the American woman suffrage movement.

It took many years for the woman suffrage movement to change the minds of lawmakers and the public; but finally, in August 1920, the United States Constitution was amended to protect women’s right to vote.

The woman suffrage movement’s nonviolent protests were sources of inspiration for Mohandas Gandhi, while he worked for independence in India, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., while he worked for equal rights during the civil rights movement in the United States.

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**amended:** changed the words and often the meaning of a law

**movement:** a series of organized activities in which many people work together to do or achieve something

**tactics:** an action or method that is planned and used to achieve a particular goal

### ***Mama Went to Jail for the Vote* is a work of historical fiction.**

In historical fiction, make-believe stories are set against a backdrop of real events or incorporate them into the story. This means that sometimes things are changed to suit the story or make it more dramatic.

Although there was a woman on a white horse in the suffrage parade it wasn’t really Mama. The rider was a Washington lawyer named Inez Milholland Boissevain. When she later died while traveling to promote woman suffrage she was considered to be a martyr to the cause.

Purple, white, and yellow were the colors used in the parades and by the pickets of the National Woman’s Party although purple, white, and green were used in other places like New York and Connecticut.

## Role Model Medal

*Directions, page 1 of 2*

*For adults and kids to follow together.*

1. Read the **Step Back in Time** sheets.
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2. Read *Mama Went to Jail for the Vote*.
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3. Think about how Mama was a role model for Susan Elizabeth

**Tip** Encourage your child to think about the ideas that Mama fought for. Ask them to think about ways Mama encouraged Susan Elizabeth to be an independent young lady. Have them think about the Mama's actions throughout the story.

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4. Use the **ThinkAbout** sheet to write down words or phrases that describe the ideas, encouragement, and actions that Mama demonstrated in the story.
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5. Think about a woman in your life that is a role model for you like Mama was a role model for Susan Elizabeth.

**Tip** Encourage your child to think about the ideas that this female role model has shared with them. Ask them to think about ways their female role model encourages them as they are growing up. Have them think about their female role model's actions in life.

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6. Use the **ThinkAbout** sheet to write down words or phrases that describe the ideas, encouragement, and actions that make this woman a role model.
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7. Lay the juice can lid on top of the white construction paper and trace it using the pencil.

## Role Model Medal

*Directions, page 2 of 2*

8. Using scissors, cut out the circle you just traced.  

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9. With your colored pencils, write your female role model's name neatly in the center of the construction paper circle.  

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10. Using colored pencils copy some of the words and phrases from your **ThinkAbout** sheet around the edges of the circle.  

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11. You may wish to shade in the background of the circle lightly with a colored pencil or draw pictures that illustrate your ideas.  

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12. Glue the construction paper circle to the juice can lid. Allow to dry.  

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13. Glue the pin back to the opposite side of the juice can lid. Allow to dry.  

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14. When all the parts of your pin are dry, present the pin to your role model. Explain what you learned in the story *Mama Went to Jail for the Vote* and how she was given a pin to honor her actions. Explain to your role model what the pin represents and why you wanted to honor her for her actions.  

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For more activities and information about *Mama Went to Jail for the Vote* and the woman suffrage movement, visit <http://americanhistory.si.edu/ourstory/activities/suffrage/>.

***Mama Went to Jail for the Vote* by Kathleen Karr. Illustrations by Malene Laugesen. Used by permission of Hyperion Books for Children.**

## Role Model Medal

### ThinkAbout



The Jailed for Freedom pins include a jail door, chains, and a heart-shaped lock.

You'll be making a pin to honor your female role model like the Jailed for Freedom pin given to women who went to prison for protesting for woman suffrage. The woman you'll honor woman could be your mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, cousin, teacher, or any other woman that you look up to and admire.

What kinds of words or phrases would Susan Elizabeth use to describe Mama?

- What are ideas that Mama shared with Susan Elizabeth?
- How did Mama encourage Susan Elizabeth?
- What action words describe Mama in everyday life?

Use the book to fill in 2-3 examples.

<i>Ideas</i>	<i>Encouragement</i>	<i>Actions</i>

What words or phrases are important in describing your female role model.

- What are ideas that she has shared with you?
- How does she encourage you?
- Think of action words that describe what your female role model does in everyday life.

Try to think of 2-3 examples for each column.

<i>Ideas</i>	<i>Encouragement</i>	<i>Actions</i>

More information at <http://americanhistory.si.edu/ourstory/activities/suffrage/>.

## Role Model Medal

*For Teachers, page 1 of 2*

*Read the “Parent Guide” and “Directions” sheets for step-by-step instructions.*

### OBJECTIVES

The students will be better able to:

- Communicate ideas through words.
- Describe character traits that make a person a role model.

### STUDENT PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- Selects logical words or phrases for the basis of artwork.
- Defends (or provides a sound explanation for) word choices in the context of historical information or personal interpretation.

### STANDARDS

#### *NCHS History Standards*

##### *K-4 Historical Content Standards*

- 4C. The student understands historic figures who have exemplified values and principles of American democracy.
- 4D. The student understands events that celebrate and exemplify fundamental values and principles of American democracy.

#### *IRA/NCTE Language Arts Standards*

1. Students read a wide range of print and non-print texts to build an understanding of texts, of themselves, and of the cultures of the United States and the world; to acquire new information; to respond to the needs and demands of society and the workplace; and for personal fulfillment. Among these texts are fiction and nonfiction, classic and contemporary works.
12. Students use spoken, written, and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion, and the exchange of information).

## Role Model Medal

*For Teachers, page 2 of 2*

### *21st-Century Skills*

#### *Learning and Innovation Skills*

- Creativity and Innovation

