

SUSAN B. ANTHONY



BIOGRAPHY

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Susan B. Anthony was born to a Quaker family in Adams, Massachusetts, on February 15, 1820. The family moved to Battenville, New York, when Susan was still a child, and then to Rochester in the 1840s. Susan worked as a teacher to help bring in money for the family.

Around this time, Susan's family became involved in the movement for the abolition of slavery. Her family home was used as a meeting place for notable abolitionists like Frederick Douglass. Anthony also campaigned for the temperance movement, which argued for the restriction of alcohol.

But in the 1850s, Anthony turned her attention to women's rights. She met Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who was already an active campaigner. Anthony also realized that women's political opinions were not taken seriously when she was not allowed to speak at a conference just because she was a woman.

After the Civil War, Anthony concentrated more on women's rights. In 1866, she and Stanton founded the American Equal Rights Association to push for equality between men and women. Two years later, they started publishing weekly editions of *The Revolution*, which was about women's rights. Around this time, they also founded the National Woman Suffrage Association to push for women's right to vote.

Over the years, Anthony continued to give speeches arguing for women's rights, and to gather petitions for women to own property and vote. Even when she was threatened and attacked in the streets, she carried on campaigning for what she believed was right. In 1872, Anthony illegally voted in the presidential election, and was fined.

Later on, Anthony met President Theodore Roosevelt to lobby for votes for women. But it was not until 1920, fourteen years after Anthony's death, that the 19th Amendment to the U.S Constitution was passed, allowing all women to vote in America.

Understanding words

Before we can understand a story we have to know what all of the words mean. Let's try one...

a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'abolition'.

b From that sentence, suggest what 'abolition' means.

c Write a new sentence using the word 'abolition'.

d Use a dictionary to find words with a similar meaning (synonyms) to 'abolition'.

e Draw a small picture showing what you think 'abolition' means.

Finding key words

Next, we need to find the key words that tell us what the story is about...

Read the story and underline the key words. Write the most important of these key words in a list like the one below. Write next to it a word that means a similar thing (a synonym). You don't have to use all the spaces, but you should not use more.

Key word	Synonym (similar word)
Example: carried on	continued

Sequencing

Sequencing means getting the events in the right order. Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense.

The Anthony family was involved in the abolition movement.

In 1920, the U.S. Constitution was amended so that women were allowed to vote.

The two women then set up the National Woman Suffrage Association.

Susan B. Anthony was born to a Quaker family in Massachusetts.

Anthony then met Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and became involved in women's rights campaigns.

They also started publishing The Revolution, which argued for women's rights.

Later on, the family moved to New York, where Susan became a teacher.

Get to the facts

1 Who did Susan B. Anthony meet in the 1850s?

2 What did Anthony and Stanton found in 1866?

3 What was The Revolution about?

4 What did Anthony do illegally in 1872?

5 When was the 19th Amendment passed?

Make a story...

When you read a description it often gives you ideas about how the event might be described differently.

Presidential election

Imagine you are Susan B. Anthony in 1872. Write a letter to your friend, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, describing what happened when you voted in the presidential election.

Below is a plain text version for printing:

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For example:

Key word – carried on	Synonym – continued
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Sequencing:

Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense:

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Get to the facts:

- 1 Who did Susan B. Anthony meet in the 1850s?
- 2 What did Anthony and Stanton found in 1866?
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