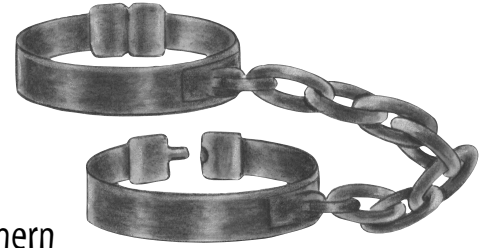


# At Last, At Last... Free at Last!

## The Emancipation Proclamation

President Abraham Lincoln delivered the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863 during the Civil War. He said that all slaves in America were free! That also meant that owning slaves was illegal. This was one of the many reasons why the Northern and Southern states fought each other. After being set free, more than 200,000 black men joined the Union army to fight. Almost 40,000 black soldiers died serving their country in the Civil War.



Use the Word Bank to fill in the sentence blanks.

WORD BANK		
1863	Civil	freed
Union	40,000	Lincoln



The "Juneteenth Celebration" remembers the ending of slavery.

- The Emancipation Proclamation \_\_\_\_\_ the black slaves!
- After gaining freedom, black men could fight in the \_\_\_\_\_ army.
- Nearly \_\_\_\_\_ black soldiers died in the Civil War.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ War was fought between the North and South.
- President Abraham \_\_\_\_\_ delivered the Emancipation Proclamation in January of \_\_\_\_\_.

### FAST FACT

Blacks suffered discrimination even in the Union Army! Black soldiers received \$7 monthly pay, but white soldiers were paid \$13 a month. Blacks strongly protested against the unfair pay rate. Congress changed the law in 1864 to require that black and white soldiers receive equal pay.