

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Sojourner Truth



Sojourner Truth (1797 – 1883) was an American abolitionist and women's rights activist. She was born as a slave in Swartekill, New York. In 1826, she escaped to freedom with her baby daughter. In 1828, she went to court for the right to recover her son. Sojourner Truth became the first Black woman to win such a legal case against a white man.

Sojourner Truth was born Isabella "Belle" Baumfree, but she began to call herself Sojourner Truth when she believed God had sent her on a special mission to share hope with others. In 1851, Sojourner Truth gave a speech at the Ohio Women's Rights Convention. The speech was later titled, "Ain't I a Woman?" and it is her best-known speech.

During the Civil War, Sojourner Truth helped recruit Black troops for the Union Army. After the war, she never stopped fighting for the rights of African-Americans and women. Today she is honored with a memorial in the United States Capitol building. She is also a member of the National Women's Hall of Fame.

1. Sojourner Truth was...
  - a. the first Black woman to escape from slavery
  - b. the first Black woman to win a lawsuit against a white man
  - c. the first Black woman to serve in the Army
2. Where was Sojourner Truth born? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How long did Sojourner Truth live?
  - a. about 76 years
  - b. about 86 years
  - c. about 96 years
  - d. about 106 years
4. For which of the following is Sojourner Truth famous?
  - a. a book she wrote
  - b. a song she sang
  - c. an essay she published
  - d. a speech she gave

## ANSWER KEY

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