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Grade level: 5

Primary Source Citation: Russell, William (1847). "\$200 Reward. Ranaway from the subscriber...Five Negro Slaves." *African American Odyssey*. American Memory from the Library of Congress. http://memory.loc.gov. Accessed 20 March 2009.

Link to overview page:

http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/aaohtml/exhibit/aopart1b.html#0116

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the image located at the above link while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

Level 1: Description

- 1. Where did this advertisement appear?
- Who made the advertisement?
- 3. What is the reward?
- 4. What is "lost"?
- 5. What else do you notice about it?

Level 2: Interpretation

- 1. Why is the reward in large, bold print?
- 2. Why is the reward so large compared to other slave ads you have seen?
- 3. What do you think the word "mulatto" means?

Level 3: Analysis

- 1. Why is the reward only \$150 if found within 100 miles of St. Louis, but it is \$200 if they are located farther than 100 miles of St. Louis?
- 2. Do you think these runaway slaves were field slaves? Why or why not?
- 3. Why does the owner mention that the slaves are probably traveling with a white man?

DO Reward

RANAWAY from the subscriber, on the night of Thursday, the 30th of Sepember,

To-wit: one Negro man, his wife, and three children-

The man is a black negro, full height, very erect, his face a little thin. He is about forty years of age, and calls himself Washington Reed, and is known by the name of Washington. He is probably well dressed, possibly takes with him an ivory headed cane, and is of good address. Several of his teeth are gone.

Mary, his wife, is about thirty years of age, a bright mulatto woman, and quite stout and strong.

The oldest of the children is a boy, of the name of FIELDING, twelve years of age, a dark mulatto, with heavy eyelids. He probably wore a new cloth cap.

MATILDA, the second child, is a girl, six years of age, rather a dark mulatto, but a bright and smart belief a shild.

looking child.

MALGOLM, the youngest, is a boy, four years old, a lighter mulatto than the last, and about equally as bright. He probably also wore a cloth cap. If examined, he will be found to have a swelling at the navel. Washington and Mary have lived at or near St. Louis, with the subscriber, for about 15 years. It is supposed that they are making their way to Chicago, and that a white man accompanies them, that they will travel chiefly at night, and most probably in a covered wagon.

A reward of \$150 will be paid for their apprehension, so that I can get them, if taken within one hundred miles of St. Louis, and \$200 if taken beyond that, and secured so that I can get them, and other reasonable additional charges, if delivered to the subscriber, or to THOMAS ALLEN, Esq., at St. Louis, Mo. The above negroes, for the last few years, have been in possession of Thomas Allen, Esq., of St. Louis.

WMN. RUSSELLL.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 1, 1847.