

# Carl Sandburg Home

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Carl Sandburg Home  
National Historic Site



Explore, Learn, Protect:  
Be a Junior Ranger

# Welcome!

The **National Park Service** (NPS) is a group of people who help to protect the people and events in United States history as well as the plants and animals and places that make our country unique.

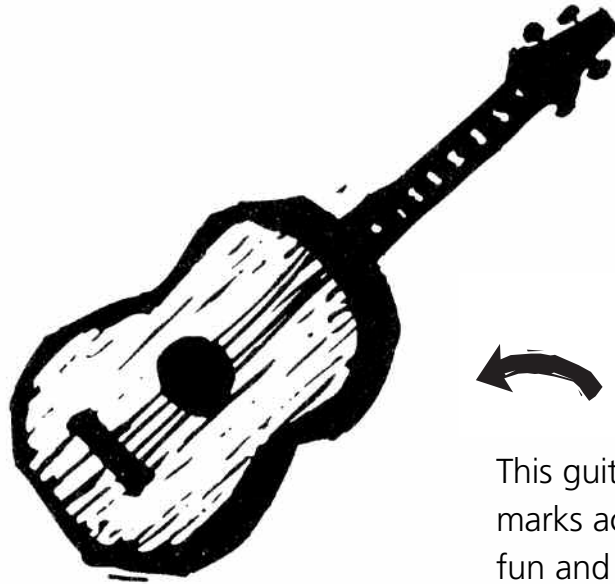
These plants, animals, places and people are called our **national treasures**. These treasures are protected in places called national parks. These parks remind all of us that we, as United States citizens, live in a special and fascinating country.

As National Park Service Rangers, it is our job to be the stewards or the protectors of the parks. It is our job to understand the treasures and share them with you. The more you understand how important the parks are to our country, the more likely you are to help protect our parks so that your children and their children and their children can enjoy them too!

As a Junior Ranger, you too are a steward, in this case the steward of stories about Carl Sandburg. As you discover this national park, you will begin to learn and understand this historical treasure. You can then help us share with visitors the importance of this house and these grounds as a national treasure.

**Earn a Junior Ranger badge and certificate by completing the activities in this booklet.**

Younger children complete all the activities with the guitar symbol and older children complete all the activities with the typewriter symbol.



This guitar symbol marks activities for fun and for the young.



These activities require a little more concentration and thought.

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*This Junior Ranger booklet was made possible in part by a grant from the National Park Foundation through the generous support of the Unilever Company, a Proud Partner of America's National Parks and a National Corporate Partner of the Junior Ranger Program, through the generous support of the Community Foundation of Henderson County and the Friends of Carl Sandburg at Connemara.*

*Special thanks to all the boys and girls, their parents, and the teachers who took part in the evaluation of several draft versions of this booklet. Thank you to Jesus Figueroa, Interpreter for Henderson County Public Schools, Hendersonville, North Carolina who translated the Spanish language version of this booklet.*

# Carl Sandburg: The Poet



*photos: NPS*

Carl Sandburg loved words. He loved how words could be used to show happiness or sadness, anger or hunger. Sometimes Mr. Sandburg would write about nature: the sea, the trees, the birds, the sky; sometimes he would write about his wife Paula or one of his daughters: Margaret, Janet, or Helga. He would write poetry about things he felt were unfair or things he felt were funny. He didn't worry whether or not his poems rhymed. He just wrote how he felt and how he saw things.



Read, or have someone read to you, the following poem  
Mr. Sandburg wrote about bugs.

### Bug Spots

This bug carries spots on his back  
Last summer he carried these spots  
Now it is spring and he is back here again  
With a domino design over his wings  
All winter he has been in a bedroom  
in a hole, in a hammock, hung up, stuck away  
Stashed while the snow blew over . . . the wind and the dripping icicles  
the tunnels of the frost  
Now he has errands again in a rotten stump

-Carl Sandburg, *Early Moon*

*reprinted with permission from Harcourt, Brace & Jovanovich, Inc. © 1930*



Which bug is Mr. Sandburg talking about? Circle.



Butterfly



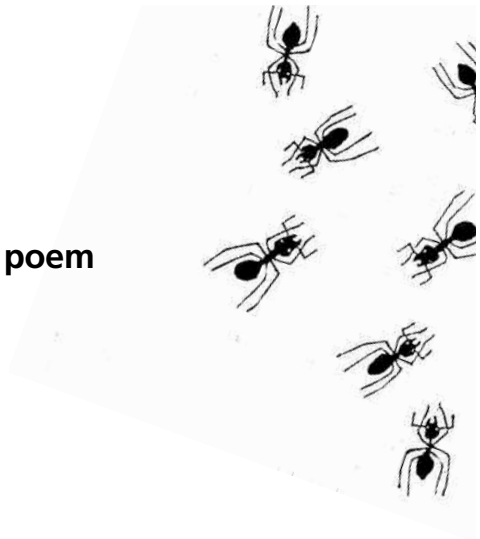
Bee



Ladybug



Spider





In the space provided create a three- to-five line poem about something in nature you love.

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# Carl Sandburg: Writes About Honest Abe



A biography is a true story of someone's life. Reading a biography is a good way of getting to know a person.

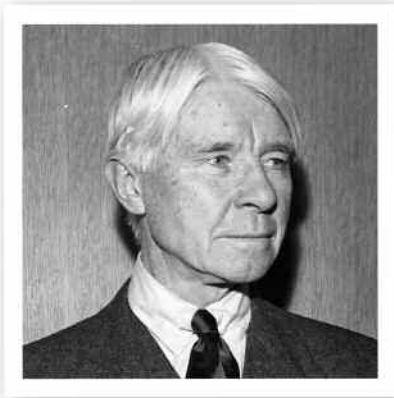
Carl Sandburg wrote a biography about Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States. He chose Mr. Lincoln, also known as Honest Abe, because he felt every American could learn from the lessons of Mr. Lincoln's life.

Mr. Sandburg spent many years studying about the life of Honest Abe. He read his poetry, his speeches, and his letters; he learned what he liked to eat, liked to read, and liked to do with his time. Mr. Sandburg was getting to know Mr. Lincoln.

He wrote two very large biographies about Mr. Lincoln called *The Prairie Years* and then four more large biographies about Mr. Lincoln called *The War Years* for which he won a very important award, the Pulitzer Prize, in 1940.



Which one is Carl Sandburg?  
Circle his picture.



*photos: NPS*



If you could write a biography, whom would you write about? List three to five facts about this person.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

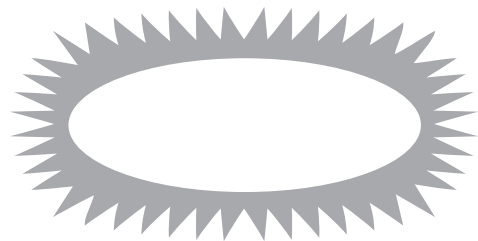
2. \_\_\_\_\_

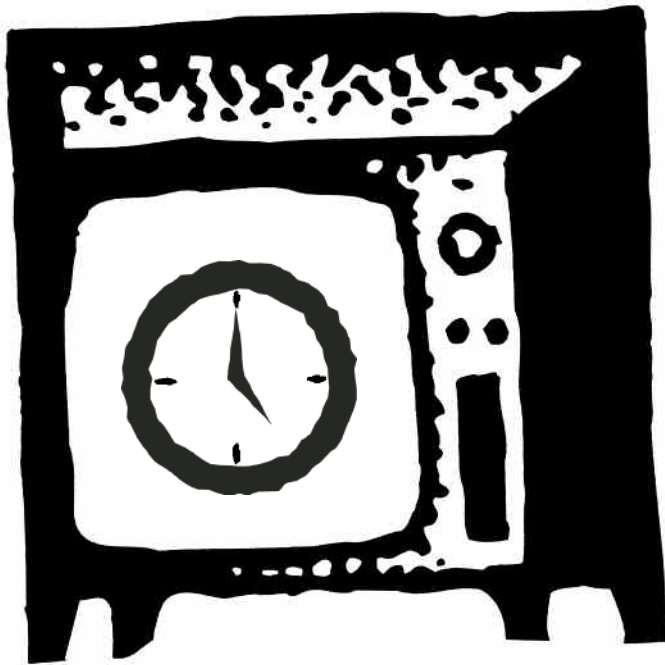
3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

Who is it?





The Sandburgs' daughters and grandchildren watched TV, but Carl Sandburg thought television was a **thief of time**.



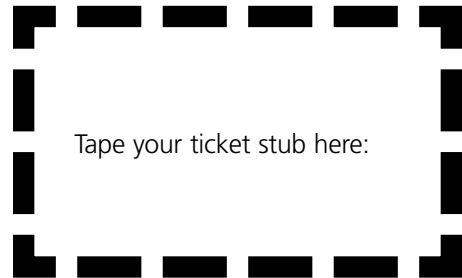
What do you think Mr. Sandburg meant by TV is a thief of time?

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See for yourself how the Sandburgs lived. Ask the Park Ranger for a ticket to the next available house tour. You are a kid, so it's FREE!



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What did you see in the house that you also have in your house?

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# The Sandburg Farm

Helga Sandburg, at sixteen years old, wanted a pet cow, but her father convinced her that goats would be easier to raise. Helga agreed, so she and her mom went shopping for a dairy goat. What began as three very fine dairy goat pets grew into a large herd of over one hundred goats.



The Sandburg goat herd was called the Chikaming Herd. Chikaming was an Indian word meaning at the *edge of the great expanse*. At the time the Sandburgs were living on the shores of Lake Michigan, one of the Great Lakes, so the name seemed perfect! Seeking better land for the goats, a warmer climate, and more privacy for Mr. Sandburg, the family (and the goats) moved to a beautiful farm with lots of pastureland in Flat Rock, North Carolina in 1945. Mrs. Sandburg called the dairy Connemara Farms Goat Dairy.

They raised three breeds of goats at the farm: Saanens, Nubians, and Toggenburgs. Mrs. Sandburg scientifically bred her goats to produce the most milk and the best milk possible. She believed too many goat breeders bred goats without a plan. Mrs. Sandburg's Toggenburg goat, Jennifer II, produced twice the amount of milk of any other Toggenburg goat in the world!

Mrs. Sandburg, her daughters, and some hired help operated the goat dairy at Connemara for over twenty years. Mrs. Sandburg was as famous a goat farmer, as her husband was a famous writer.



Go to the barn and learn more about Saanen, Nubian, and Toggenburg goats.



Fill in the name of each breed of goat that Mrs. Sandburg raised.



Answer the question about each goat.

\_ \_ \_ **G** \_ **N** \_ \_ \_ **G**

This breed of goat is from what **country**?

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\_ **U** \_ \_ \_ **N**

This breed of goat has a **special nose**.  
What kind of nose is it?

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\_ \_ **A** \_ \_ **N**

This breed of goat is always the  
same **color**. What color is it?

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*photos: Bob Dickinson*

# Carl Sandburg: Folksinger

When Carl Sandburg was 19 years old he left home and became a hobo. He traveled on trains in between the boxcars. He worked odd jobs to pay for a good meal and he often camped out with other hobos.

Hobos sang around campfires at night. These songs told stories of the American people, their hopes and dreams, their struggles with love and work. Happy, sad, or funny stories, Carl Sandburg loved these songs. He collected and sang these songs throughout his lifetime.



## Goober Peas

Sittin' by the road side on a summer's day  
Chatting with my mess-mates, passing time a-way  
Lysin' in the shadows – underneath the trees,  
Good-ness how delicious – eating goober peas!  
Peas! Peas! Peas! Peas! Eating goober peas!  
Good-ness how delicious – eating goober peas!



What are Goober Peas? (hint: elephants love them!)

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Go to the bookstore and ask to listen to a CD of Mr. Sandburg singing from his *American Songbag*, the book in which he wrote down the songs that he had collected. Which song did you listen to?

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Now that you have learned a bit about this national park, find the words and phrases that you have come to know today in the puzzle below. As you find them, be sure to mark them off the list.

**READ SANDBURG WORKS**

**TOUR HOUSE**

**WRITE A POEM**

**LEARN A SONG**

**VISIT GOATS**

**PARK RANGER**

**CARL SANDBURG**

**BIOGRAPHER**

**CONNEMARA**

**LINCOLN**



T D E B B I O G R A P H E R B P K  
 O B D K L Y M B E U C Z T Y J A R  
 U I K M C M B P P L A T C B W R I  
 R E A D S A N D B U R G W O R K S  
 H B C V H Y F O L H L T U J I R V  
 O Q I G C D R K P O S V F R T A K  
 U N L O U B K J G T A P O M E N H  
 S Q L E A R N A S O N G P V A G C  
 E U I J K Y F H O V D R C V P E M  
 W N N B F H T U O L B B F R O R L  
 N J C U Y B N M K G U C F H E M K  
 P L O C O N N E M A R A V F M R T  
 N B L U Y N V F T R G G T K O U C  
 X B N J T K V I S I T G O A T S A

Congratulations! You have completed Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site's Junior Ranger Program. Show this booklet to the Park Ranger to receive your Junior Ranger badge and certificate.





## The Junior Ranger Pledge

As a Junior Ranger, I \_\_\_\_\_, promise to protect and preserve the legacy of Carl Sandburg by passing on the stories I have learned during my visit to Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site. I also promise to respect the natural, wildlife, and cultural resources wherever I am. I will share what I have learned about national parks with others and will continue to explore these national treasures.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Junior Ranger

\_\_\_\_\_  
Park Ranger

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Certificate of Stewardship

This certificate is awarded to

\_\_\_\_\_

in recognition of becoming a Junior Ranger

National Park Service • Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site



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\_\_\_\_\_

Park Ranger

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

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