Abigail Adams is known as a Founding Mother of the United States. She was married to John Adams, the second president. They lived in Washington, D.C.

Take a Closer Look

- Abigail did not go to school. How did she learn to read? Underline it.
- Abigail shared her ideas about the new country with John. Circle an example.

Abigail Adams faced problems. She thought of ways to make things better. She used what she had.

- Partners can work together to talk about and solve problems. What problem would you like to solve with a partner?

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Washington D.C. is the capital of the United States.
Young Abigail

Abigail Adams was born in a small town in Massachusetts in 1744. Girls did not go to school back then. Abigail’s mother taught her math, reading, and writing at home. Abigail’s father was a church minister. Abigail and her mother would go visit members of the church. They helped the sick and the poor.

A Strong Partnership

When Abigail was 19, she married John Adams. At this time, the United States was not its own country. It was part of England. John Adams helped the United States become a new country. Most of John’s work took him far from home. Abigail took care of their farm and the children. When Abigail and John were apart, they wrote to each other. They shared more than 1,000 letters!

First Lady

John became the second president of the United States. Abigail and John would talk about the new country. She told John her thoughts and ideas. For example, she thought girls should be able to get an education. She gave John a lot to think about.

Many years later, Abigail had another family member become president. Her son John Quincy Adams was the sixth president of the United States.

Amazing Fact!

Abigail and John Adams were the first family to live in the White House.

This is the first photograph of the White House. It was taken in 1846 by John Plumbe.

This is an engraving of Abigail Adams. The artist carved her image into a metal sheet to make this print.