



The Legacy of Sallie Ellis Davis

A coloring and activity book for young
learners

Created by: The Sallie Ellis Davis House

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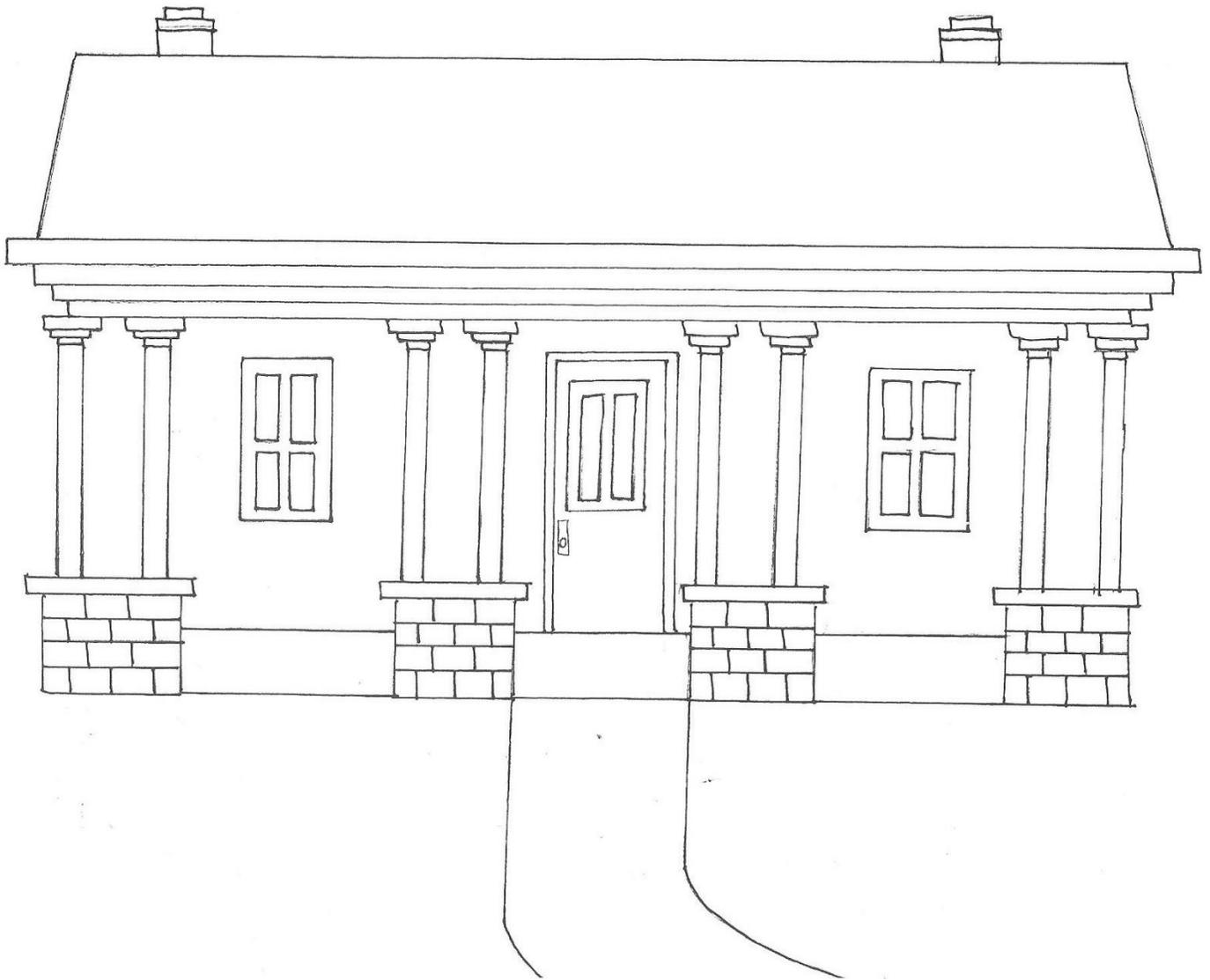
Sallie Ellis Davis was born in 1877 to Josh Ellis and Elizabeth Brunswick, a white Irishman and an African American woman, in Baldwin County, Georgia. She was raised mostly by her father's parents after her mother died when Sallie was young. She had a drive to learn and to teach, so Sallie enrolled as a student at Atlanta University and earned her Normal School degree in 1899.

When she was done with school, Sallie returned to Baldwin County as a teacher and administrator at the local Eddy High of Milledgeville. Sallie kept in contact with some great historical figures: George Washington Carver and W.E.B. Du Bois.

By 1910, Sallie Ellis had moved into the heart of Milledgeville and taken up residence in the house that is named after her today. In 1911, she met and married John (Jack) Davis, a local businessman, while continuing her dreams of being an educator. Mr. Davis died in 1920 but Sallie remained in the house until her death in 1950.

Additions to the house along with census reports and personal accounts show that Mrs. Davis made half of her home a boarding house for students. Because the Eddy High was the only school in the area that was available to black students in the segregated south, it served a very large area. Some students were forced to travel from great distances in order to go to school. There was no school bus for African American children to ride. While Sallie was an educator first, she ensured that if students were not able to get to Eddy High, they had the opportunity to live with her as a boarder. Sallie wanted to give every child the chance at an education.

Sallie's house was built in 1890 and in 2008 plans were made to fix it up and reopen it as a museum and cultural community center dedicated to Sallie Ellis Davis' legacy. The house reopened in April 2012 and anyone can tour it today to learn more about Sallie Ellis Davis.



Sallie Ellis Davis adopted two daughters, Rosa and Louise, and lived to be 73 years old. A portrait of Sallie hangs in the parlor of her house.



Sallie taught and served as principal at Eddy High in Milledgeville, Georgia. It was a school for children of all ages. The building is no longer around. After having burned down twice, it wasn't rebuilt.



Word Search

Ms. Davis' students at the Eddy High School probably used many of the same school supplies you use today. Try to find all the school supplies in the following word search.

Desk

Pen

Ruler

Pencil

Paper

Chalk

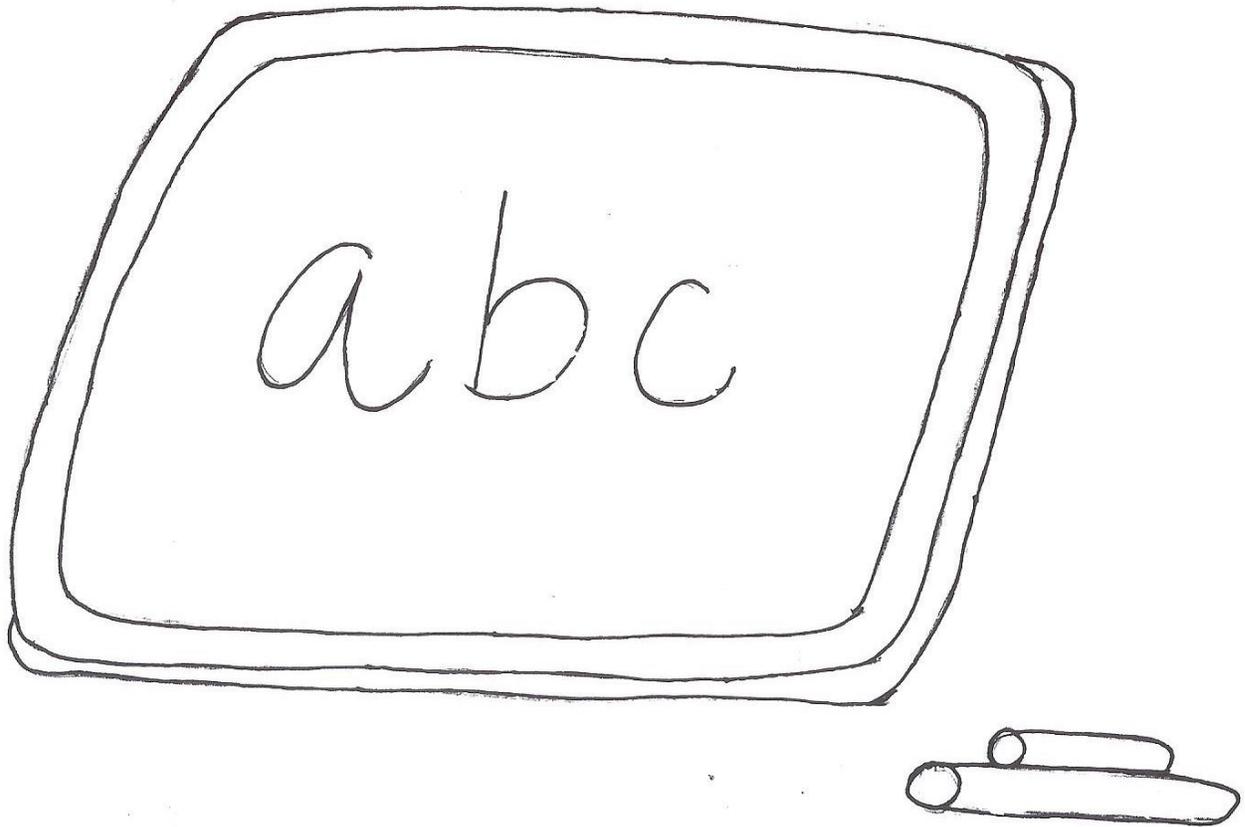
Book

Notebook

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

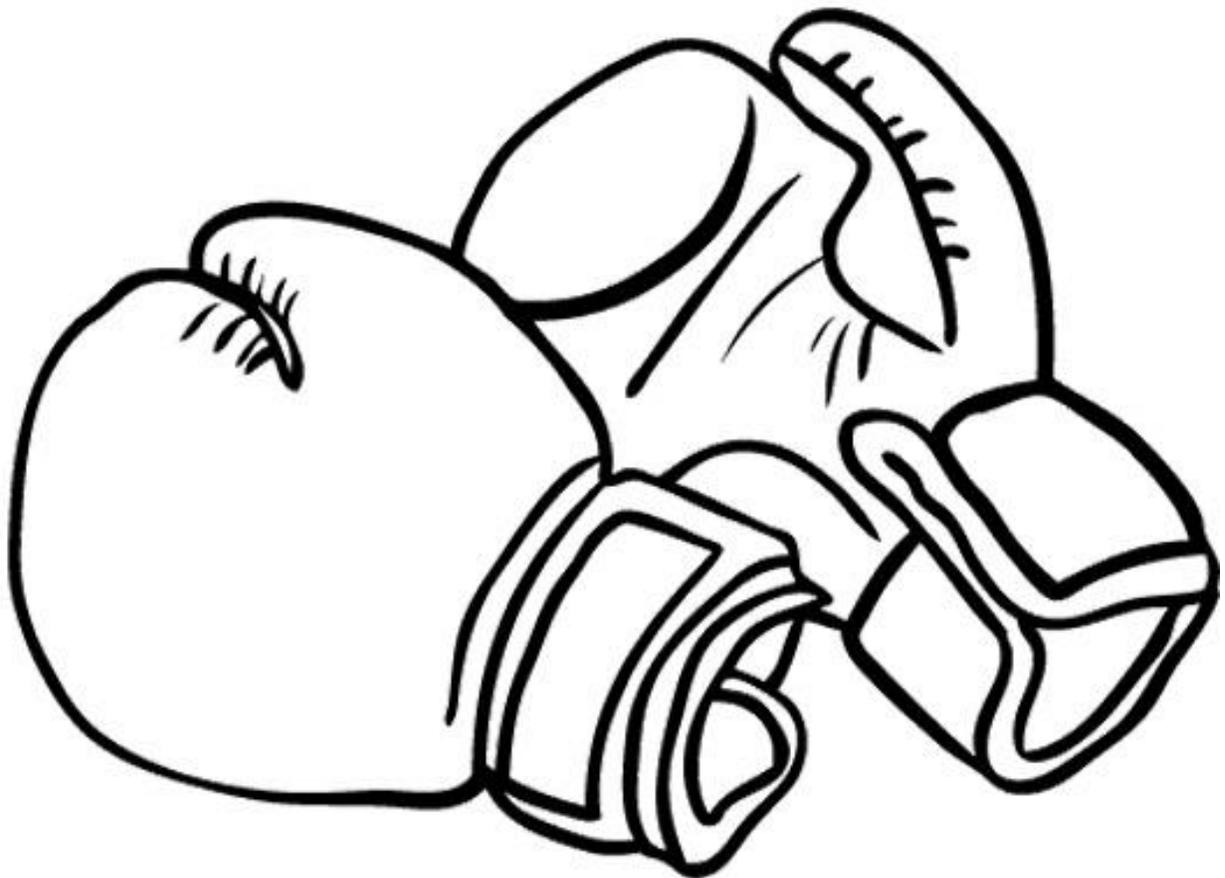
Ms. Davis' Classroom

Since Eddy School is no longer around, we recreated Ms. Davis' classroom in what used to be her bedroom. This classroom probably looks a lot like your classroom today with desks, books, and chalkboards. There were no dry erase boards or computers for students to use back when Ms. Davis was teaching. Students used slate boards and chalk to take notes or practice skills such as writing.



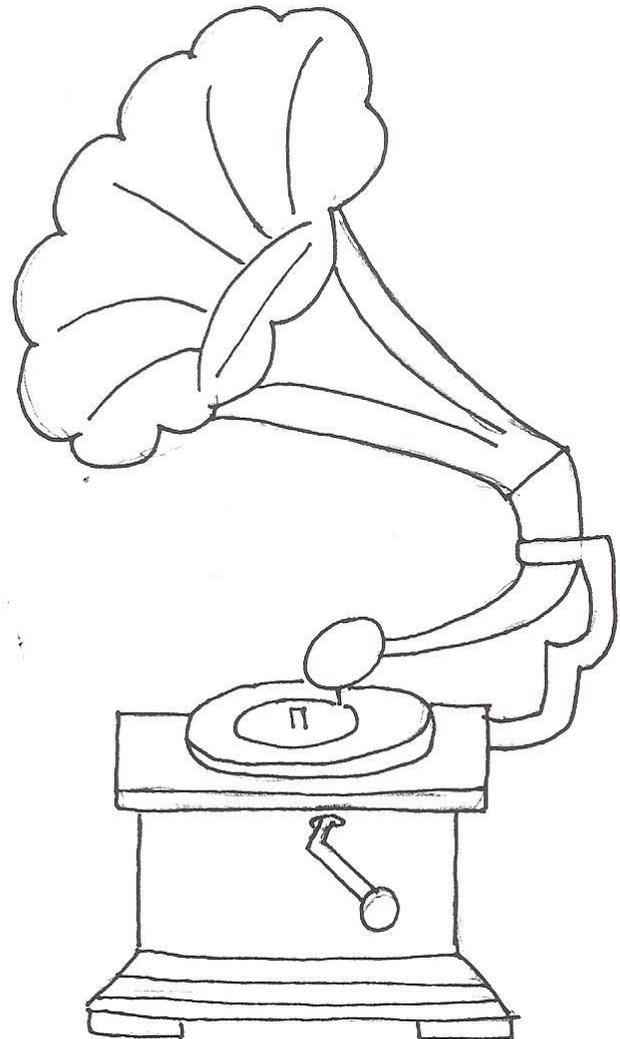
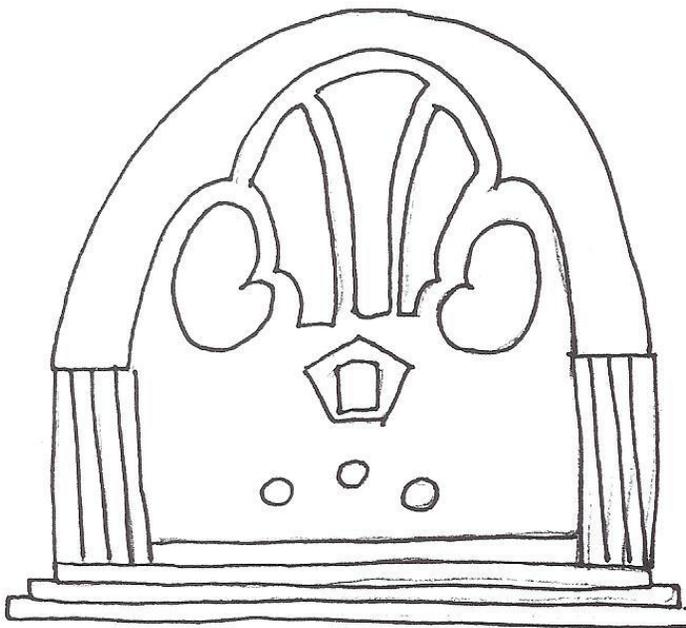
Joe Lewis

Joe Lewis, nicknamed “The Brown Bomber,” was a famous African American boxer. Ms. Davis was a huge fan of Joe Lewis and would often listen to his boxing matches on the radio in her parlor, another name for living room. Joe Lewis became a national hero after his defeat of Max Schemling in 1938. Schemling was from Germany and during a tough time in history, Joe Lewis’ knockout of Schemling made him a hero to black and white Americans alike.



Jazz Music

Ms. Davis was a fan of jazz music and you can imagine her listening to jazz either through the radio or an old style CD player called a victrola in her parlor. Early jazz started about the same time that Ms. Davis moved into this house, the early 1900s. Some famous jazz musicians were Louis Armstrong and Fats Waller. Below are pictures of Ms. Davis' radio and victrola.



*Visit the Sallie Ellis Davis
House on a tour!*

Hours vary by semester, please check our
website for days and times

The SEDH is located at:

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Visit us online: gcsu.edu/sallieellisdavis

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