



Story Guide

THE NORTH PLATTE WWII CANTEEN

BY
PIPPA WHITE

Watch the video of storyteller Pippa White live at the 2019 National Storytelling Festival [here](#).
(Right click on link to open it in a new tab.) All videos include ASL interpretation.

Story run time is 00:00 to 10:08.

Now, enjoy exploring the story with the activities outlined below.



explore it

- Pippa White tells a historical story that takes place in North Platte, Nebraska during World War II. Use a map to find North Platte.
- How does Pippa switch characters in this story? Why do you think she has three additional characters along with the narrator? How does Pippa let you know that the narrator is different from the characters?
- How does it affect the story to have the narration done in rhyme and the character portions done in prose? Do you like the way Pippa told this story?



think it

- North Platte volunteers gave their first gifts to soldiers on the train on Christmas Day in 1941. Why did they continue to give soldiers gifts for another 4.5 years? Make a list of those gifts.
- How were soldiers served in a train's hospital cars? What happened to cups and saucers when soldiers were not finished in time?
- Gene Slattery raised \$2000 for the canteen. How did he do it?
- Guess how many cookies the canteen served in one month. Then study this [Lincoln County Historical Museum Exhibit](#) to see how close you got to the actual number.



create it

- Search the web for pictures of ration stamps or ask an adult about them. Create some modern day ration stamps using items you think may need to be rationed today, if we had a war. Why did the canteen ladies share their ration stamps?
- With the help of an adult, try your hand at making an angel food cake. Use this [recipe](#) from Betty Crocker (or make the gluten-free version [here](#)) or use a box mix. Once you have made it, share it with a neighbor or friend like the volunteers at the canteen!



tell it

- Write a story in rhyme form and tell it to a friend. Pippa used props like hats and glasses to portray different characters in this story. Try using props when you tell your story to a friend.
- The soldiers wrote many thank you notes to express their appreciation for the "completely off the charts" generosity shown by the canteen volunteers. Think of a person who has been generous to you. Write a letter or tell them how much you appreciate what they did for you.