

# Paper Doll Activity

*A Stitch Through Time* comes to life as you dress up Ava in a fashion fairy tale that spotlights iconic style moments...and sparks a child's imagination. Bring Ava to life by dressing her in iconic fashion from Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley and Mildred Blount.

## INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Print and cut out each outfit along its border. For best results, use cardstock or heavy paper.
2. To construct the stand, cut along the small black lines at the base of the model. Slip each end of the horizontal strip between the shallow cuts, letting the strip arch around the back of the doll to create a supported base.
3. Affix outfits to model by folding over white tabs, and unfolding to remove.





# Ava

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Ava, a curious and adventurous girl, takes a magical journey back in time to visit Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley and Mildred Blount.

Three daring, gifted, and visionary Black fashion designers inspire Ava to create her own designs.





# Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley

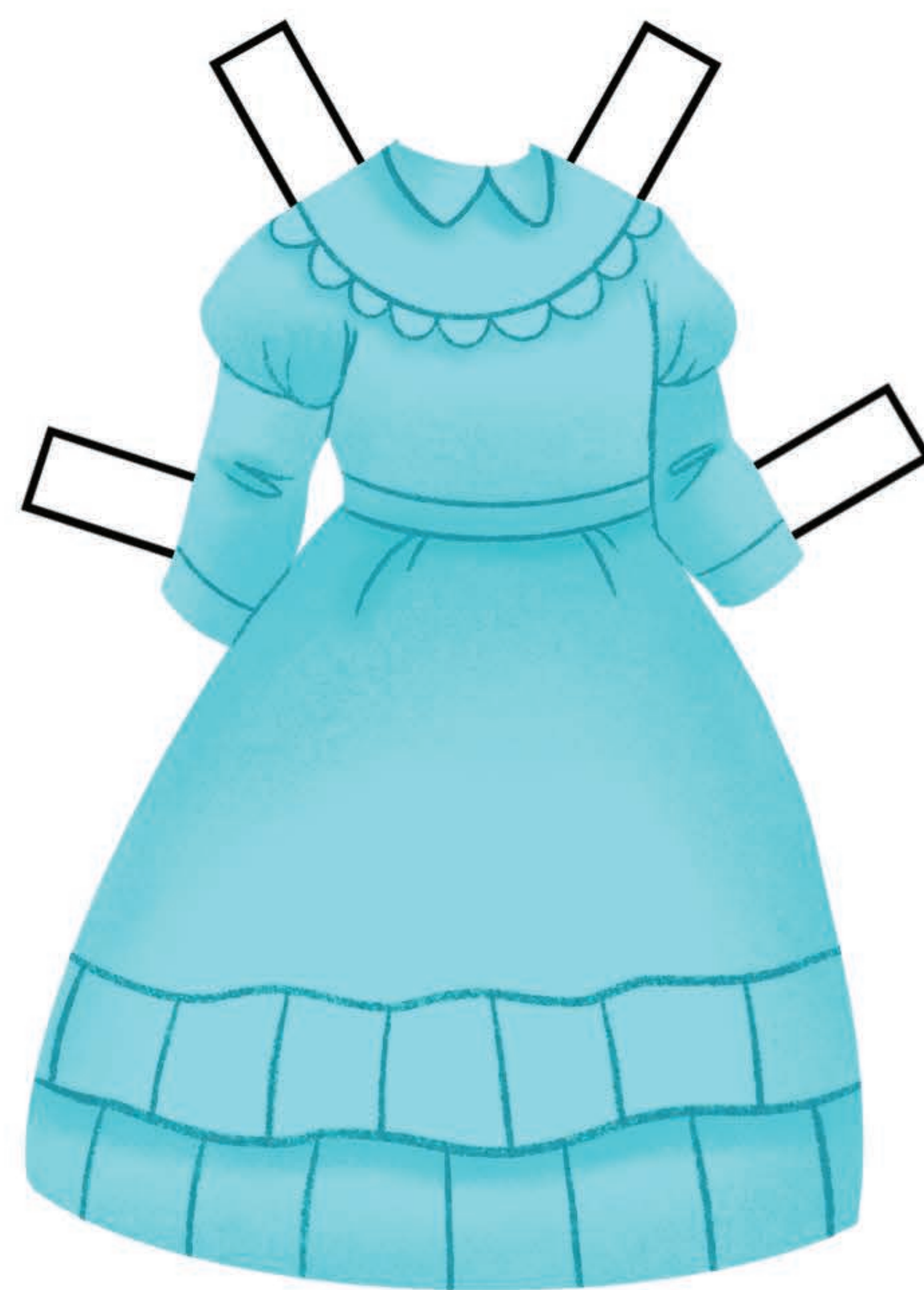
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Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley was born into slavery in 1818. When she was a little girl, her mother taught her the art of dressmaking.

Elizabeth was so skilled with her needle, she became one of the most popular dressmakers in St. Louis.

With the aid of her clients, she was able to purchase her freedom in 1855.

Elizabeth's most famous client was Mary Todd Lincoln, wife of President Abraham Lincoln. In 1861, she became the personal modiste, or designer, to the First Lady.





# Ann Cole Lowe

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Ann Cole Lowe's mother and grandmother owned a dressmaking business in Montgomery, Alabama, in the early 1900s.

While they created the latest fashions for high society ladies, young Ann stitched fabric flowers from dress scraps.

After graduation, Ann went on to design for department stores like Saks Fifth Avenue, open her own salons, and even work as a fashion journalist.





# Mildred Blount

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Mildred Blount loved making hats. In 1939, she showcased her talent by creating eighty-seven miniature hats for the World's Fair.

She moved to Hollywood and designed hats for movies like *Gone with the Wind* and *Easter Parade*.

Mildred was the first Black member of the Motion Picture Costumers Union.

