Many things have been named after me, such as streets, a city, a glacier, a peninsula, a highway, and mountains!

Do you remember what happened on April 14, 1865? That’s the day that President Abraham Lincoln was killed. That very same night someone also tried to kill me. A man entered my bedroom and stabbed me in the face and neck. I was wearing a neck brace because of an accident I had suffered several days before. That brace saved me from death!

I was born in New York and worked there as a lawyer. I served as a United States Senator from New York and as the twelfth governor of New York.

I served as the secretary of state under Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson.
I was known for being opposed to slavery. I was a bold opponent of the Fugitive Slave Act. This act said that all runaway slaves must be returned to their owners.

As secretary of state I did the work that made me most famous; I purchased Alaska, a place of rich natural resources and beauty, for the United States.

The United States paid only two cents an acre for the land! Even so, people thought the purchase was a terrible mistake. They thought that Alaska was a worthless land. They made up silly names for Alaska, such as Icebergia, Seward’s Folly, and Seward’s Icebox.

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I am William Seward.

Written by Linda Anderson

For the complete collection of “Who am I?” challenge puzzles, please visit SuperTeacherWorksheets.com.
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By Linda Andersen

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Who am I? Do you know my first and last name?
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Answer: William Seward