

Picture Book Biographies

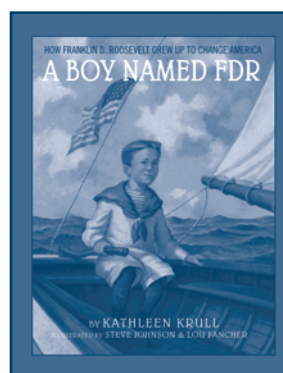
A Note to Teachers

There is no better way to connect students with history than by reading the life stories of intriguing people. A well-written biography has the same elements as any great story: characters that face challenges and difficulties, situations that excite and inspire, and narratives that urge the reader to keep turning the pages until the story's conclusion. Students will delight in discovering how ordinary people can accomplish extraordinary things.

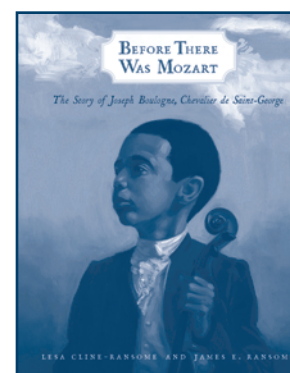
In the Classroom

Incorporate picture book biographies into the curriculum!

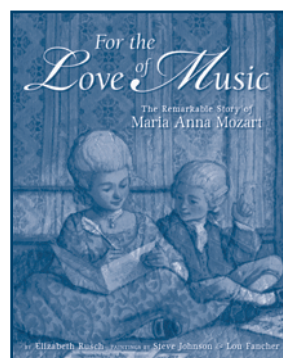
- Share with students that the word *biography* literally means “life writing” and comes from the roots *bio* and *graphia*. Have them try their hand at writing a picture book biography by choosing a person of interest to research and write about. Students can work independently to write and illustrate a biography, or work with a partner. Have plenty of picture book biographies in your classroom to use as models when the children begin their writing and illustrations.
- Create a separate space in your classroom library devoted to picture book biographies. Keep it stocked with a wide range of texts that will appeal to your class, and be sure to include books written at varying reading levels so that all students may enjoy this genre.
- Schedule time to read aloud a new picture book biography each week (even older students will look forward to this weekly foray into the past). Use this time as an opportunity to tie in to specific themes of study or to celebrate months that are devoted to specific groups, such as Black History Month or Women's History Month.



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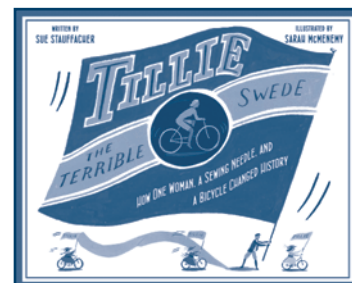
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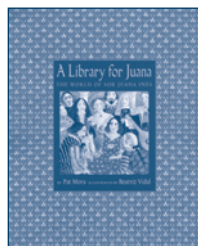


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GLB: 978-0-375-96774-0



HC: 978-0-375-84442-3
GLB: 978-0-375-94442-0

Must-Have Picture Book Biographies for the Classroom



**A Library for Juana:
The World of Sor Juana Inés**
HC: 978-0-375-80643-8



Anne Frank
HC: 978-0-375-83242-0



**Alia's Mission:
Saving the Books of Iraq**
PB: 978-0-375-85763-8
HC: 978-0-375-83217-8



**The Boy on Fairfield Street:
How Ted Geisel Grew Up
to Become Dr. Seuss**
PB: 978-0-375-85550-4
HC: 978-0-375-82298-8
GLB: 978-0-375-92298-5



**Boys of Steel:
The Creators of Superman**
HC: 978-0-375-83802-6
GLB: 978-0-375-93802-3



**The Champ:
The Story of Muhammad Ali**
PB: 978-0-440-41782-8



**Child of the Civil Rights
Movement**
HC: 978-0-375-84314-3
GLB: 978-0-375-95414-6



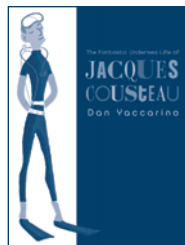
**Come See the Earth Turn:
The Story of Léon Foucault**
HC: 978-1-58246-284-4
GLB: 978-1-58246-361-2



**The Daring Nellie Bly:
America's Star Reporter**
PB: 978-0-375-85118-6



Diego
PB: 978-0-679-85617-7
HC: 978-0-679-81987-5



**The Fantastic Undersea Life
of Jacques Cousteau**
HC: 978-0-375-85573-3
GLB: 978-0-375-95573-0



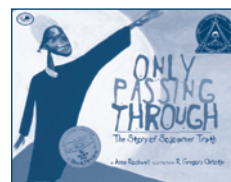
**Follow the Dream:
The Story of Christopher Columbus**
HC: 978-0-679-80628-8



Luba: The Angel of Bergen-Belsen
HC: 978-1-58246-098-7



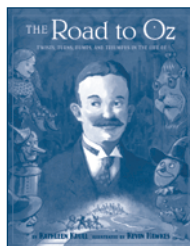
**Nothing but Trouble:
The Story of Althea Gibson**
PB: 978-0-375-86544-2
HC: 978-0-375-83408-0



**Only Passing Through:
The Story of Sojourner Truth**
GLB: 978-0-679-99186-1



**Piano Starts Here:
The Young Art Tatum**
HC: 978-0-375-83965-8
GLB: 978-0-375-93965-5



**The Road to Oz:
Twists, Turns, Bumps, and Triumphs
in the Life of L. Frank Baum**
HC: 978-0-375-83216-1



Rough, Tough Charley
HC: 978-1-58246-184-7



**Sky High:
The True Story of Maggie Gee**
HC: 978-1-58246-280-6



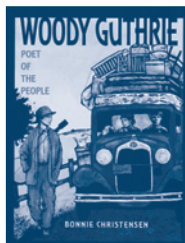
**Strong Man:
The Story of Charles Atlas**
HC: 978-0-375-82940-6



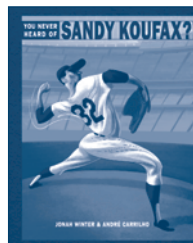
They Called Her Molly Pitcher
PB: 978-0-553-11253-5



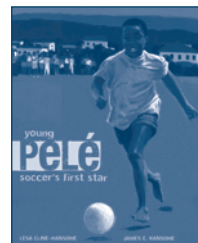
Tomás and the Library Lady
PB: 978-0-375-80349-9
HC: 978-0-679-80401-7
Spanish edition PB:
978-0-679-84173-9



Woody Guthrie: Poet of the People
PB: 978-0-553-11203-0



You Never Heard of Sandy Koufax?!
HC: 978-0-375-83738-8



Young Pelé: Soccer's First Star
PB: 978-0-375-87156-6
Available Fall 2011

Name: _____



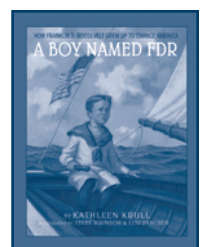
Quotes that Inspire Me

Directions: Choose quotes from *A Boy Named FDR* that you think are important. Then record your responses to the quote on the other side of the chart.

Quotes From the book

What it made you think, feel, or wonder

| | |
|--|---|
| Example quote: "But for the rest of his life, he could not stand without someone helping him." | I think FDR must have been scared, frustrated, and angry. I wonder how he got the courage to go on to become president. |
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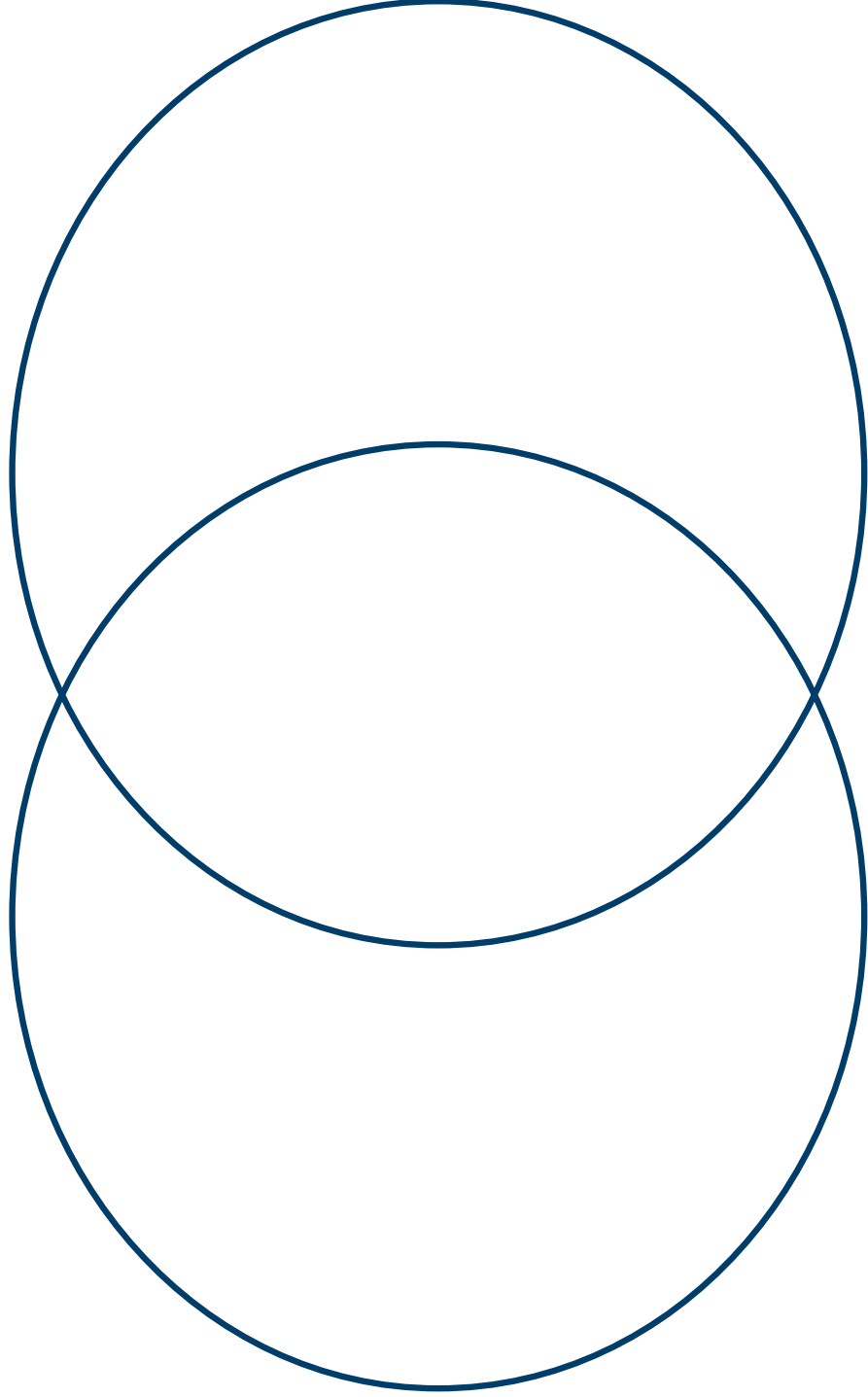
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How Much Like Mozart?

Directions: Learn about Joseph Boulogne, Chevalier de Saint-George in *Before There Was Mozart* and Maria Anna Mozart in *For the Love of Music*. Choose one of these musicians and research the similarities and differences between him/her and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Fill in the Venn diagram below to organize your findings.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

(fill in musician name)



Name: _____

A Whirling Sensation!

Directions: Bicycle companies fought to get Tillie Anderson as their poster girl. Pretend that you are the president of a bicycle company and you have landed Tillie as your poster girl. Use the space below to design an advertisement complete with headline, art, and your company's name, slogan, and logo.

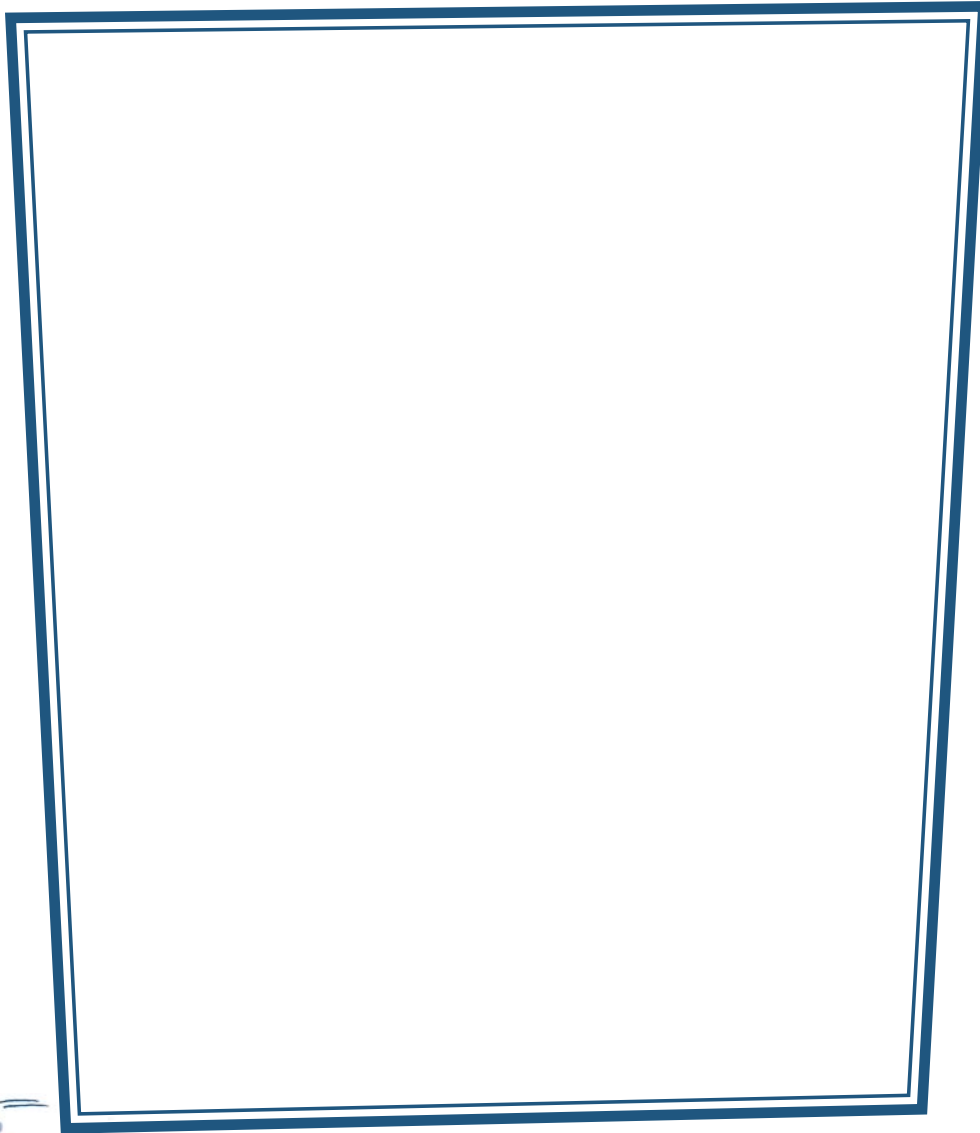
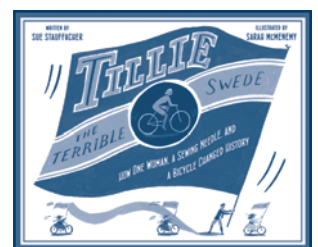


Illustration © 2011 by Sarah McMenemy.



Name: _____

THE WATCHER Word Search

Directions: At five years old, Jane Goodall was already a watcher.
Find and circle the words below based on the things that Jane observed.

WORD BANK:

CHIMPANZEE
CROAK
EARTHWORM
FISH

GOMBE
HOOT
INSECT
NEST

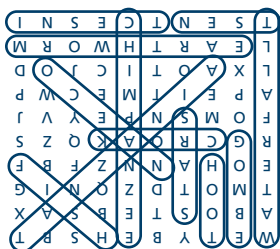
OCEAN
STARS
TANZANIA
WATERFALL



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

Illustration © 2011 by Jeanette Winter

SOLUTION:



EDUCATORS: Reproduce this activity sheet to use with your students.

