



Picture BOOK Biography



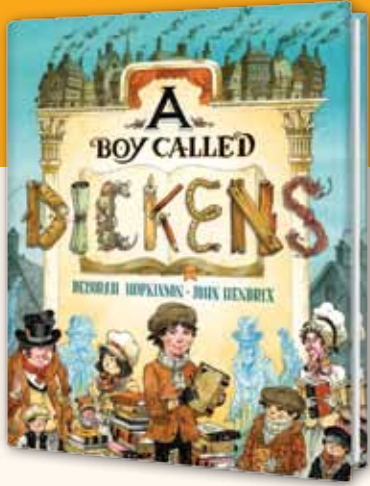
There is no better way to **connect** young people with **history** than by reading the life stories of **intriguing** people. A **well-written** biography has the same elements as any **great story**: characters that **face challenges** and difficulties, situations that **excite** and **inspire**, and narratives that urge the reader to keep turning the pages until the story's conclusion.



What **young person** doesn't love being armed with an arsenal of **fun facts** about artists, sports figures, **famous** folks, and ordinary people?



RHTeachersLibrarians.com



A Boy Called Dickens

Deborah Hopkinson; illustrated by John Hendrix
Ages 4–9 • HC: 978-0-375-86732-3 • GLB: 978-0-375-96732-0 • EL: 978-0-375-98740-3

About the book:

For years Charles Dickens kept the story of his own childhood a secret. Yet it is a story worth telling. For it helps us remember how much we all might

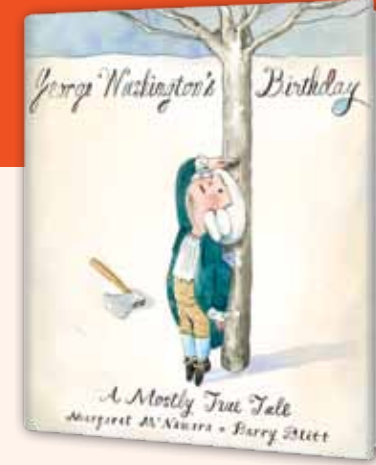
lose when a child's dreams don't come true. . . . As a child, Dickens was forced to live on his own and work long hours in a rat-infested blacking factory. Readers will be drawn into the winding streets of London, where they will learn how Dickens got the inspiration for many of his characters. Charles Dickens's 200th birthday is in 2012, and this tale of his little-known boyhood is the perfect way to introduce kids to the great author. Here is historical fiction at its ingenious best.

Fun Facts about Charles Dickens

- ★ Just like in his books, Charles Dickens loved giving out nicknames. His children had nicknames like “Skittles” and “Plorn.”
- ★ Charles Dickens suffered from epilepsy and wrote about characters who had epilepsy, too.
- ★ Writer Hans Christian Andersen was a personal friend of Charles Dickens.



Illustration © John Hendrix



George Washington's Birthday: A Mostly True Tale

Margaret McNamara; illustrated by Barry Blitt
Ages 4–8 • HC: 978-0-375-84499-7 • GLB: 978-0-375-94458-1 • EL: 978-0-375-98741-0

About the book:

George Washington's Birthday is a partly true and completely funny story of George Washington's seventh birthday. In this clever approach to history,

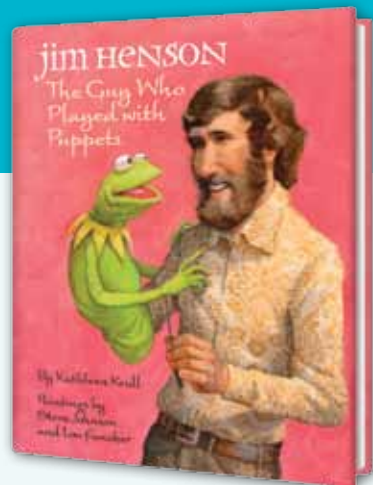
readers will discover the truths and myths about George Washington. Did George Washington wear a wig? No. Did George Washington cut down a cherry tree? Probably not. Readers young and old, who are used to seeing George Washington as an old man, will get a new look at the first president—as a kid.

Fun Facts about George Washington

- ★ George Washington was the only president who did not live in Washington, D.C.
- ★ George Washington never had dentures made of wood. He did have dentures made of cow's teeth and hippopotamus ivory.
- ★ Before he was president, George Washington was a farmer. He is sometimes credited with introducing the mule to America.



Illustration © Barry Blitt



Jim Henson

The Guy Who Played with Puppets

Kathleen Krull

Illustrated by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher

Ages 5–7 • HC: 978-0-375-85721-8 • GLB: 978-0-375-95721-5 • EL: 978-0-375-98914-8

About the book:

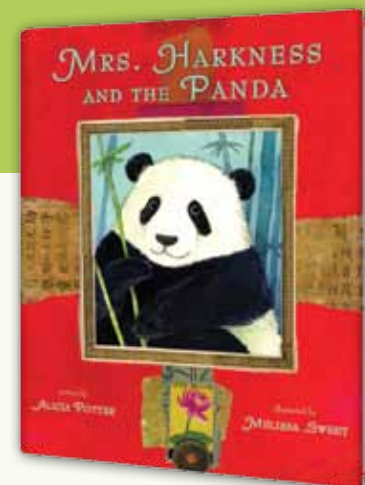
What do you want to be when you grow up? Jim Henson wanted to play with puppets. At 16, Jim and a friend built their own puppets and got their first job on TV. In time, audiences all over the world would fall in love with Jim's Muppets—Kermit the Frog, Big Bird, and Miss Piggy, to name a few. From Kathleen Krull, beloved writer of lively and engaging nonfiction for children, comes the inspiring story of a guy who knew what he wanted to be when he grew up—a full-time creator of human happiness.

Fun Facts about Jim Henson

- ★ Jim Henson is one of only three people honored both as himself and as a character, Kermit the Frog, on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.
- ★ The earliest version of Kermit the Frog was created using his mother's green coat and two ping-pong balls for eyes.
- ★ On *Sesame Street*, Jim Henson provided the voices for the Muppets Kermit, Ernie, and talk show host Guy Smiley, to name a few.



Illustration © Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher



Mrs. Harkness

and the Panda

Alicia Potter; illustrated by Melissa Sweet

Ages 5–8 • HC: 978-0-375-84448-5 • GLB: 978-0-375-94448-2

About the book:

In 1934, Ruth Harkness had never seen a panda bear. Not many people in the world had. But soon the young Mrs. Harkness would inherit an expedition from her explorer husband: the hunt for a panda. She knew that bringing back a panda would be hard. Impossible, even. But she intended to try. So she went to China, where she found a guide, built traps, gathered supplies, and had explorers' clothes made—unheard of for a woman in those days. Then she set out up the Yangtze River and into the wilderness. What she discovered would awe America: an adorable baby panda. This little-known true story shares the tale of an adventurous woman who was bold and brave—and the unforgettable journey that helped shape American attitudes toward wildlife.

Fun Facts about Ruth Harkness

- ★ To capture the panda to bring back to the United States, Mrs. Harkness and her guides traveled as many as 30 miles a day in temperatures as high as 100 degrees.
- ★ Before Mrs. Harkness brought the panda back to America, some scientists thought it didn't exist and was a mythical creature like the unicorn.
- ★ Mrs. Harkness's panda was named Su Lin, meaning "a little bit of something cute."



Illustration © Melissa Sweet



I, Galileo

by Bonnie Christensen

Ages 8–12 • HC: 978-0-375-86753-8 • GLB: 978-0-375-96753-5

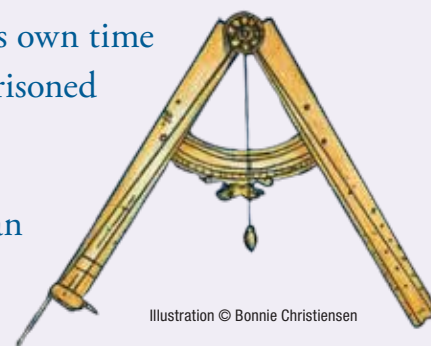
About the book:

Acclaimed author-illustrator Bonnie Christensen adopts the voice of Galileo and lets him tell his own tale in this outstanding picture book biography.

The first person narration gives this book a friendly, personal feel that makes Galileo’s remarkable achievements and ideas completely accessible to young readers. Galileo’s contributions were so numerous—the telescope! the microscope!—and his ideas so world-changing—the sun-centric solar system!—that Albert Einstein called him “the father of modern science.” But in his own time, he was branded a heretic and imprisoned in his home. He was a man who insisted on his right to pursue the truth, no matter what the cost—making his life as interesting and instructive as his ideas.

Fun Facts about Galileo

- ★ Galileo heard a rumor that a Dutch scientist had created a spyglass to view faraway objects. Struck by the idea, he set to work and within weeks Galileo had created his own, much more powerful and accurate instrument—the first true telescope.
- ★ Today we celebrate Galileo as a great scientist, but in his own time his ideas were considered so dangerous that he was imprisoned and forbidden to talk about them.
- ★ Galileo, who saw the universe more clearly than any man of his age, was blind during the last years of his life.



Bon Appétit!

The Delicious Life of Julia Child

by Jessie Hartland

All Ages • HC: 978-0-375-86944-0 • GLB: 978-0-375-96944-7

About the book:

A picture book about Julia Child—just in time for the 100th anniversary of her birth. Follow Julia Child—chef, author, and television personality—from her childhood in Pasadena, California, to her life as a spy in World War II,

to the cooking classes she took in Paris, to the publication of *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*, to the funny moments of being a chef on TV. This is a comprehensive and enchanting picture book biography, told in many panels and jam-packed with lively, humorous, and child-friendly details. Young chefs and Julia Child fans will exclaim, “Oo la la!” about this book, which is as energetic and eccentric as the chef herself.

Fun Facts about Julia Child

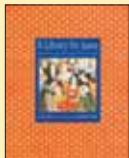
- ★ Julia Child was so tall that she had the countertops in her kitchen built two inches higher than normal countertops to make cooking more comfortable.
- ★ During World War II, Julia worked for the Office of Strategic Services, where she researched a shark repellent to keep sharks away from U.S. Naval explosives.
- ★ Julia’s last meal was French onion soup.



Must-Have Picture BOOK Biographies



A Boy Named FDR
HC: 978-0-375-85716-4
GLB: 978-0-375-95716-1



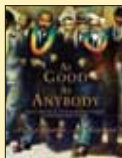
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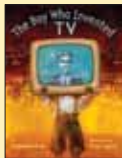
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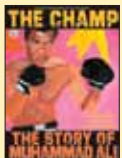
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EL: 978-0-307-55484-0



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GLB: 978-0-375-93802-3



The Boy Who Invented TV
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GLB: 978-0-375-94561-8



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



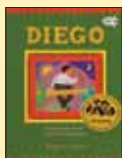
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Diego
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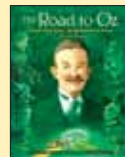
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They Called Her Molly Pitcher
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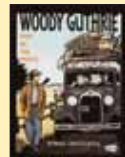
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Young Pelé: Soccer's First Star
PB: 978-0-375-87156-6
GLB: 978-0-375-93599-2

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