

All books are located in the biography section (X921 or YA921, under the last name of the subject person) unless otherwise noted.

* indicates an autobiography

Activists

Collins, David R. **FARMWORKER'S FRIEND: THE STORY OF CESAR CHAVEZ** (80pp)

Examines the life of Cesar Chavez, who helped improve the lives of thousands of farmworkers using nonviolent protest.

Haskins, Jim. **I HAVE A DREAM: THE LIFE AND WORDS OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.** (111pp)

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dramatic story as a nonviolent black leader is told with extensive quotations from King's eloquent prose and an overview of the Civil Rights Movement.

Keller, Bill. **TREE SHAKER: THE STORY OF NELSON MANDELA** (128pp)

The life of Nelson Mandela, as told by a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist who witnessed many of the events.

* Parks, Rosa. **ROSA PARKS: MY STORY** (192pp)

Rosa Parks, who refused to give up her seat on a bus and helped establish the Civil Rights Movement, tells her own story.

Wilkinson, Philip. **GANDHI: THE YOUNG PROTESTER WHO FOUNDED A NATION** (64pp)

Archival photographs illustrate the story of Mahatma Gandhi, from his pampered childhood to his extraordinary adult life as India's liberator.

also: Pastan, Amy. **GANDHI** (128pp)

Artists

McLanathan, Richard B. K. **MICHELANGELO** (X759.5 MICHELANGELO, 91pp)

A biography of the Renaissance sculptor, painter, and architect who was also irritable, arrogant, and impatient. (With pictures of his works and environment.)

also: Stanley, Diane. **MICHELANGELO** (48pp)

O'Connor, Barbara. **LEONARDO DA VINCI: RENAISSANCE GENIUS** (X759.5 LEONARDO, 112pp)

Examines Da Vinci's life, paintings, and scientific experiments, but makes it clear that what is known about his life is sometimes more legend than fact.

also: Stanley, Diane. **LEONARDO DA VINCI** (48pp)

Rubin, Susan Goldman. **MARGARET BOURKE-WHITE: HER PICTURES WERE HER LIFE** (X779 BOURKE-WHITE, 96pp)

Tells the story of a woman who became one of the most promising photojournalists in the country, in an era when career women struggled at every turn.

* Zhang, Song Nan. **A LITTLE TIGER IN THE CHINESE NIGHT** (48pp)

Zhang, a Chinese artist who has lived in Canada since the Tiananmen Square uprising of 1989, "tells and paints" this autobiography.

Authors

Ellsworth, Mary Ellen. **GERTRUDE CHANDLER WARNER AND THE BOXCAR CHILDREN** (61pp)

This book captures the spirit of the woman: a child at the turn of the century, who had a lifelong love of reading, teaching, and writing. Sources include interviews with colleagues and former students.

* Fleischman, Sid. **THE ABRACADABRA KID: A WRITER'S LIFE** (198pp)

Children's book author Sid Fleischman, whose life adventures have included serving in the Navy, touring as a professional magician, and even panning for gold, tells his life story.

Fritz, Jean. **HARRIET BEECHER STOWE AND THE BEECHER PREACHERS** (44pp)

This biography is less about the writing of Stowe's famous book, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, than it is about her life as a woman in the mid-nineteenth century and her struggle to make her voice heard.

* Little, Jean. **LITTLE BY LITTLE: A WRITER'S EDUCATION** (233pp)

This memoir by a prize-winning Canadian children's author who was born nearly blind focuses on her life from childhood through college.

Explorers / Adventurers

Alper, Ann. **FORGOTTEN VOYAGER: THE STORY OF AMERIGO VESPUCCI** (80pp)

This book attempts to sort fact from speculation about Amerigo Vespucci, who mapped the coasts of the continents that bear his name, the Americas.

Blumberg, Rhoda. **SHIPWRECKED: THE TRUE ADVENTURES OF A JAPANESE BOY** (80pp)

Tells the story of a 14-year-old castaway, who was the first Japanese person to come to the United States, and eventually became an honored samurai.

Cummins, Julie. **TOMBOY OF THE AIR: DAREDEVIL PILOT BLANCHE STUART SCOTT** (80pp)

Tells about the life of the first woman to fly a plane in public in America at a time when American women were fighting for their right to vote.

Giblin, James. **CHARLES A. LINDBERGH: A HUMAN HERO** (212pp)

A Sibert Award winning author explores the excitement that surrounded Charles Lindbergh from his first solo non-stop flight across the Atlantic until his isolationist stance during WWII robbed him of his popularity.

Levinson, Nancy Smiler. **MAGELLAN AND THE FIRST VOYAGE AROUND THE WORLD** (X921 MAGALHAES, 132pp)

Reveals the perseverance of Magellan, whose voyage changed the course of human exploration, though he did not complete the journey himself.

* O'Grady, Scott. **BASHER FIVE TWO** (133pp)

The true survival tale of an American Air Force pilot who was shot down during a peacekeeping mission over Bosnia.

Szabo, Corinne. **SKY PIONEER: A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY OF AMELIA EARHART** (63pp)

This biography celebrates Earhart's drive and skill and daring as a record-breaking pilot at a time when women were expected to stay home.

also: Parr, Jan. **AMELIA EARHART: FIRST LADY OF FLIGHT** (111pp)

Musicians / Entertainers

Chippendale, Lisa A. **YO-YO MA: A CELLO SUPERSTAR BRINGS MUSIC TO THE WORLD** (112pp)

Ma is presented in a professional light as well as a personal one through stories of his many tours and performances as well as of his minor blunders.

Fleischman, Sid. **ESCAPE! THE STORY OF THE GREAT HOUDINI** (210pp)

Fleischman looks at the life of one of the great magicians of all time, through the eyes of a fellow magician.

also: Lalicki, Tom. **SPELLBINDER: THE LIFE OF HARRY HOUDINI** (88pp)

January, Brendan. **LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN, MUSICAL GENIUS** (X780.92 BEETHOVEN, 111pp)

Examines the life of Beethoven, who did not let his eventual deafness interfere with his work on musical compositions.

Macy, Sue. **BULL'S EYE : A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY OF ANNIE OAKLEY** (64pp)

The author has drawn on family members' stories as well as Oakley's unpublished autobiography to tell how Annie Oakley broke barriers and created new opportunities for women all over the United States.

Political Leaders

Adler, David A. **B. FRANKLIN, PRINTER** (126pp)

Anecdotes, quotations, and period illustrations bring into focus the life of this remarkable man who wanted to be remembered simply as “B. Franklin, Printer.”

also: Fleming, Candace. **BEN FRANKLIN'S ALMANAC: BEING A TRUE ACCOUNT OF THE GOOD GENTLEMAN'S LIFE** (120pp)

Behnke, Alison. **POPE JOHN PAUL II** (112pp)

Provides a very human portrait of the former leader of the Catholic Church, from his earliest days in Poland to his becoming leader of a billion Catholics.

Fleming, Candace. **OUR ELEANOR: A SCRAPBOOK LOOK AT ELEANOR ROOSEVELT'S REMARKABLE LIFE** (176pp)

Told in a unique "scrapbook" style, this biography presents Eleanor Roosevelt in her many roles from wife and mother to civil rights crusader.

also: Freedman, Russell. **ELEANOR ROOSEVELT: A LIFE OF DISCOVERY** (198pp)

Freedman, Russell. **LINCOLN: A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY** (150pp)

This Newbery Award winning biography contrasts the Lincoln of legend and the Lincoln of fact, making liberal use of quotations from original sources (letters, newspaper articles) and period photographs.

also: Collier, James Lincoln. **THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN YOU NEVER KNEW** (80pp)

Giblin, James. **THE MANY RIDES OF PAUL REVERE** (85pp)

A Sibert Award winning author sets the record straight on Paul Revere's life and his role in the American Revolution. Revere was also a bell ringer, print engraver, businessman, cartoonist, and even dentist.

Hort, Lenny. **GEORGE WASHINGTON: A PHOTOGRAPHIC STORY OF A LIFE** (128pp)

Photographs and sidebars add dimension to this biography of the man often called the father of our country. He was also a surveyor, a British officer, and a plantation (and slave) owner.

also: Adler, David A. **GEORGE WASHINGTON: AN ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHY** (274pp)

Kraft, Betsy Harvey. **THEODORE ROOSEVELT: CHAMPION OF THE AMERICAN SPIRIT** (180pp)
Anecdotes and quotations help bring to life the shy, asthmatic child who went on to become a popular president, a conservationist, and the first American to win a Nobel Prize.

Krohn, Katherine E. **PRINCESS DIANA** (112pp)
Tells the story of Princess Diana, from her privileged but sad childhood to the tragic accident that took the life of this extraordinary woman – whose charities continue to help people today.

Severance, John B. **WINSTON CHURCHILL: SOLDIER, STATESMAN, ARTIST** (144pp)
Describes the life of a unique leader who both experienced and influenced the great social and political changes of the first half of the 20th century.

also: Binns, Tristan Boyer. **WINSTON CHURCHILL: SOLDIER AND POLITICIAN** (127pp)

St. George, Judith. **JOHN & ABIGAIL ADAMS: AN AMERICAN LOVE STORY** (147pp)
Portrays the compelling and equal partnership and marriage that helped shape the United States.

Scientists / Inventors

Brown, Jordan. **ROBO WORLD: THE STORY OF ROBOT DESIGNER CYNTHIA BREAZEAL** (108pp)
Tells about the life of Cynthia Breazeal, a creature creator, a roboticist, a scientist who designs, builds, and experiments with robots.

Collins, Mary. **AIRBORNE: A PHOTOBIOGRAPHY OF WILBUR AND ORVILLE WRIGHT** (63pp)
This biography, filled with period photographs, reveals the personalities and lives of these two pioneering geniuses who changed the world.

also: Freedman, Russell. **THE WRIGHT BROTHERS: HOW THEY INVENTED THE AIRPLANE** (129pp)

see also: Maurer, Richard. **THE WRIGHT SISTER: KATHARINE WRIGHT AND HER FAMOUS BROTHERS** (127pp)

Ferris, Jeri. **WHAT ARE YOU FIGURING NOW: A STORY ABOUT BENJAMIN BANNEKER** (64pp)
An award-winning author describes the life of a self-taught African-American mathematician, astronomer, and surveyor.

Freedman, Russell. **OUT OF THE DARKNESS: THE STORY OF LOUIS BRAILLE** (81pp)
A Newbery Award winning author tells the life of Braille, who, blinded at age three, went on to develop a system that enabled blind people to read and write.

Haven, Kendall F. **ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL: INVENTOR AND VISIONARY** (127pp)
Tells about the life of the man who invented the telephone, but who also did much more.

Krull, Kathleen. **ISAAC NEWTON** (126pp)
Profiles the secretive, obsessive, and brilliant English scientist who invented calculus and developed the modern scientific method.

Lassieur, Allison. **ALBERT EINSTEIN: GENIUS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY** (127pp)
Describes Einstein's difficulties in school and problems finding jobs as well as how he went on to challenge the established thinking about the universe.

also: Severance, John B. **EINSTEIN: VISIONARY GENIUS** (144pp)

McClafferty, Clara Killough. **SOMETHING OUT OF NOTHING: MARIE CURIE AND RADIUM** (134pp)
Examines the life and work of a groundbreaking scientist and independent woman, who won not one but two Nobel Prizes.

Sports Stars

* Kwan, Michelle. **MICHELLE KWAN, HEART OF A CHAMPION** (YA796.91 KWAN, 151pp)
In a conversational style, Michelle Kwan tells of her life as a U.S. and World Champion figure skater and Olympic hopeful.

Macht, Norman L. **LOU GEHRIG** (X796.35 GEHRIG, 64pp)
A biography of one of baseball's mightiest stars and among its humblest heroes, who played in 2,130 consecutive games in 14 seasons.

Nuwer, Hank. **THE LEGEND OF JESSE OWENS** (YA796.42 OWENS, 176pp)
Tells the story of a grandson of slaves, who became an Olympic legend, and challenged Hitler's dream of Aryan superiority.

Robinson, Sharon. **PROMISES TO KEEP: HOW JACKIE ROBINSON CHANGED AMERICA** (X796.357 ROBINSON, 64pp)
A biography of the man who broke the color barrier in baseball, written by his daughter.

Thompson, John. **LANCE ARMSTRONG** (YA796.6 ARMSTRONG, 100pp)
Relates the story of a world champion cyclist who battled cancer and went on to win the Tour de France.

Other Interesting People

Bolden, Tonya. **MARITCHA: A NINETEENTH-CENTURY AMERICAN GIRL** (YA921 LYONS, 47pp)
Tells the story of a black child born free in New York City during the days of slavery.

Emerson, Kathy Lynn. **MAKING HEADLINES: A BIOGRAPHY OF NELLIE BLY** (111pp)
Traces the life of a woman who developed a reputation as a radical female reporter by choosing to write about controversial subjects.

Fleischner, Jennifer. **I WAS BORN A SLAVE: THE STORY OF HARRIET JACOBS** (93pp)
Based on the autobiography of Harriet Jacobs, who was born a slave, but lived as a fugitive for many years before winning her freedom.

Freedman, Russell. **CONFUCIUS: THE GOLDEN RULE** (48pp)
Newbery and Sibert Award winning author tells of Confucius, a man whose philosophy of compassion and fairness helped shape Chinese political and religious thought.

Gorrell, Gena K. **HEART AND SOUL: THE STORY OF FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE** (146pp)
Describes the life of the woman who set a shining example for nurses everywhere of compassion and commitment to patient care.

Lawlor, Laurie. **HELEN KELLER: REBELLIOUS SPIRIT** (168pp)
Quotes from Keller's own writing help describe how she found her way out of darkness and silence, and worked to lead the way for handicapped people.

also: Dash, Joan. **THE WORLD AT HER FINGERTIPS: THE STORY OF HELEN KELLER** (235pp)

Rol, Ruud van der. **ANNE FRANK, BEYOND THE DIARY: A PHOTOGRAPHIC REMEMBRANCE** (113pp)
Uses photos to help tell the story of an ordinary girl in an extraordinary situation.

Warren, Andrea. **PIONEER GIRL** (X921 SNYDER, 96pp)
Old photos illustrate a riveting story of one girl's life on the prairie and the determination of the families who settled there.

Biographies for 4th – 6th Grades



Lincoln



Stowe



Franklin



Newton



Beethoven

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