

Middle School 6-8 Biography Suggestions

Charles and Emma: the Darwins' leap of faith

by *Deborah Heiligman* (JB D259he)

Presents a biography of Charles Darwin, the author of *The Origin of Species*.

Claudette Colvin: twice toward justice

by *Phillip Hoose* (JB C726h)

Recounts the life of an Alabama teenager, and little-known civil rights activist, who refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white woman nine months before Rosa Parks did.

Delicious: the life and art of Wayne Thiebaud

by *Susan Goldman Rubin* (J759.L3 T346r)

Presents the life of contemporary California painter and cartoonist, Wayne Thiebaud.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony: a friendship that changed the world

by *Penny Colman* (JB St263c) The story of these two suffragists is told in alternating chapters.

Escape!: the story of the great Houdini

by *Sid Fleischman* (JB H814f)

The author's passion for magic shines through in this biography of Harry Houdini, a famous magician and escape artist.

First Girl Scout: the life of Juliette Gordon Low

by *Ginger Wadsworth* (JB L948w)

Showcases the life and accomplishments of Juliette (Daisy) Gordon Low, who founded the Girl Scouts of America, which encouraged girls of all backgrounds to explore the outdoors, be active citizens and prepare for roles as professional women.

Girls who rocked the world: heroines from Joan of Arc to Mother Teresa by *Michelle Roehm McCann and Amelie Welden* (J920.72 M126g)

This book relays biographical information on over forty different amazing young women.

The great and only Barnum: the tremendous, stupendous life of showman P.T. Barnum

by *Candace Fleming* (JB B267f)

The story of Phineas Taylor Barnum, founder of the Barnum and Bailey Circus.

Hillary Rodham Clinton: do all the good you can

by *Cynthia Levinson* (JB C617L)

This book chronicles the life and accomplishments of Hillary Rodham Clinton from her childhood to her campaign for President in the 2016 election.

Ida M. Tarbell: the woman who challenged big business—and won!

by *Emily Arnold McCully* (JB T172m)

Tarbell was a pioneering investigative journalist who wrote articles on the dishonest practices of J.D. Rockefeller and the Standard Oil Company, which helped change big business.

Jim Thorpe: original all-American

by *Joseph Bruchac* (J796.4 T398br)

A biography of all-around athlete Jim Thorpe who was a gold medalist in the 1912 Olympics.

The Lincolns: a scrapbook look at Abraham and Mary by *Candace Fleming* (JfB L638fL)

Using primary sources such as photographs, letters, engravings and cartoons, this book tells of the enduring relationship between our 16th president and his devoted wife.

Most dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the secret history of the Vietnam War

by *Steve Sheinkin* (TEEN B EL598s)

Tells the story of a man who stole and published secret documents about the United States' involvement in the Vietnam War.

Nelson Mandela: South African revolutionary

by *Beatrice Gormley* (JB M3118g)

This book paints a portrait of Mandela, a Nobel Peace Prize winner and civil rights activist.

The notorious Benedict Arnold: a true story of adventure, heroism and bravery

by *Steve Sheinkin* (JB Ar641s)

Presents a biography of the Revolutionary War general who became a traitor when he defected to the British.

Restless spirit: the life and work of Dorothea Lange

by *Elizabeth Partridge* (JB L26p)

Lange was a photographer during some of the darkest times in U.S. history. She photographed migrant farm workers in California during the Great Depression, as well as Japanese American internees.

Samurai rising: the epic life of Minamoto Yoshitsune

by *Pamela S. Turner* (JB M66t)

This book reads like an adventure novel, as it tells the true story of the greatest samurai, who was sent as a child to a monastery, where he perfected his fighting skills.

Steve Jobs: the man who thought different

by *Karen Blumenthal* (JB J579b)

Presents the life and career of Steve Jobs, founder of Apple Computers, including his accomplishments in technology and design.

Terrible Typhoid Mary: a true story of the deadliest cook in America

by *Susan Campbell Bartoletti* (JB T98b)

Relates the story of "Typhoid" Mary Mallon, a cook, whose reputation was damaged when she spread typhoid fever and made dozens of people sick. The book uses photographs and primary sources to look at the scandal and how she was treated by medical and legal officials.

Walt Disney: drawn from imagination

by *Bill Scollon* (JB D632sc)

A portrait of the man who created Mickey Mouse, from his childhood on a Missouri farm and his service during WWI to his ambition that drove him to create Mickey and other Disney characters and films.