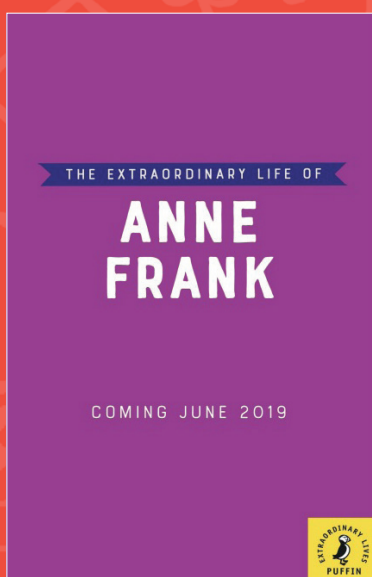


EXTRAORDINARY LIVES SERIES

NON-FICTION FOR KS2/KS3

BIOGRAPHY WRITING

Resource Pack for Teachers and Librarians





THE AIM

This Resource Pack serves as an introduction to the *Extraordinary Lives* series – Puffin's *extraordinary* new non-fiction collection, which is perfect for KS2 and lower KS3 classrooms.

Beautifully illustrated throughout, the collection includes *The Extraordinary Life of Stephen Hawking*, *The Extraordinary Life of Malala Yousafzai* and *The Extraordinary Life of Michelle Obama*. From International Women's Day to the Moon Landing Anniversary and Black History Month, we hope that these biographies will help you explore significant historical and cultural moments, and the people at their heart, with your class.

The lessons included in this Resource Pack are matched to National Curriculum objectives and provide material for four or more Literacy, Citizenship and PSHE lessons, adaptable for pupils in Years 5–8 at the teacher's discretion.

The final outcome is for pupils to understand the different features of biography writing and to create a brand-new biography for an *extraordinary person* of their choice – also helping them to realize the importance of being inspired by others: that they can go anywhere and be anything, because the lives of these *extraordinary* people show that anything is possible.

ABOUT THE BOOKS

A bold new series for 7+ readers focusing on the lives of inspirational historical and modern figures.



- * Diverse, real-life stories to educate, inspire and empower
- * Published to tie in with key moments throughout the year, including International Women's Day, the 50th anniversary of the moon landing, the 90th anniversary of Anne Frank's birth, and the 150th of Gandhi's
- * Written in accessible language and beautifully illustrated throughout
- * Topics include science, space, politics, history and civil rights

Discover the *extraordinary* lives of the world's most inspirational people, beautifully realized in these fully illustrated books. From real-life narrative to timelines and facts, each book is a journey of discovery as it explores the childhood, the achievements and the qualities of each figure – the very things that helped them have such an incredible impact on the world.



The Extraordinary Life of Malala Yousafzai

Malala Yousafzai is: a student, a campaigner, an inspiration . . .

Malala is known across the world for her bravery, resilience and hope in the face of terrifying adversity.

From her childhood playing in the Swat Valley in Pakistan to making speeches at the United Nations, she has become an inspiration for people fighting for justice.

Discover what it took for one exceptional girl to become the voice of so many in this book that brings Malala's *extraordinary* story to life.



The Extraordinary Life of Stephen Hawking



Stephen Hawking was: a physicist, a cosmologist, an author . . . one of the cleverest people who ever lived.

While studying at Oxford University, Stephen Hawking was diagnosed with motor neurone disease, which meant that eventually he was completely paralysed, and could only talk via a computer.

But that never held him back, and his work on time and space changed the way the world thinks about the universe.

Discover more about the life of a man who is known for his huge contribution to science.

The Extraordinary Life of Michelle Obama

Michelle Obama is: a lawyer, a writer, an activist . . . a First Lady of the United States of America.

She is a role model and a feminist icon. Born and raised in Chicago, she studied and worked hard to become a lawyer, and then took to the international stage as First Lady.

This book tells the *extraordinary* story of Michelle Obama's life, perfect for young readers everywhere.





The Extraordinary Life of Anne Frank

Her words have become some of the most remarkable in modern history: discover the incredible life story of **Anne Frank**, whose bravery has inspired so many.

Her inspiring story comes to life in this book, with narrative biography, timelines, facts and quotes.



The Extraordinary Life of Neil Armstrong

One little boy who loved the idea of flying became the first person to set foot on the moon.

On 20 July 1969 **Neil Armstrong** made history with his 'giant leap for mankind'. From his childhood playing with model planes to becoming one of the most famous astronauts of all time, find out about the remarkable story of Neil Armstrong's life, complete with narrative biography, facts and timelines.

The Extraordinary Life of Katherine Johnson

In 1969 history was made when the first humans stepped on the moon. Back on earth, one woman was running the numbers that ensured they got there and back in one piece.

As a child, **Katherine Johnson** loved maths. She went on to be one of the most important people in the history of space travel. Discover her fascinating life story in this beautifully illustrated book, complete with narrative biography, timelines and facts.





OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

Lesson 1: Illustrating Extraordinary Lives

KS2 Objectives:

- ★ To identify the symbolism of different images and illustrations in the series
- ★ To attach symbols to different significant individuals throughout history and understand their meaning
- ★ To create illustrations for an extraordinary person of choice

Outcomes: A completed table analysing different illustrations; two symbolic illustrations for an extraordinary person of choice

Lesson 2: Important Biographical Facts

KS2 Objectives:

- ★ To understand that a biography is considered as 'non-fiction' because it is factual
- ★ To identify facts about three significant individuals and make inferences based on those facts
- ★ To carry out research into their chosen extraordinary person and to create a factsheet for him/her

Outcomes: A completed factsheet for three significant individuals; a list of facts for an extraordinary person of choice

Lesson 3: Overcoming Challenges in Life

KS2 Objectives:

- ★ To identify different challenges in life and to rank these challenges in order, giving reasons
- ★ To understand the challenges faced by different significant individuals throughout history
- ★ To carry out research into their chosen extraordinary person and to create a list of challenges that he/she faced

Outcome: A list of challenges faced by an extraordinary person of choice as well as ways in which challenges were overcome

Lesson 4: Creating a Biography

KS2 Objectives:

- ★ To understand the impact of extraordinary individuals on the world
- ★ To identify the different features of the biography genre
- ★ To use the features of the biography genre to create a biography for an extraordinary person of choice

Outcome: A completed biography booklet for an extraordinary person of choice using the features of the biography genre





BEFORE YOU BEGIN... INTRODUCTORY WORD CLOUDS

To get children in the right frame of mind for the ideas and themes explored in this Resource Pack, begin by asking them to discuss the following words and write down any definitions or related ideas that spring to mind.



NON-FICTION



Biography



UNIQUE



Profession



IMPACT





LESSON ONE ILLUSTRATING EXTRAORDINARY LIVES

Lead-in questions:

- ★ Can you see the two words in the word *extraordinary*? How do they help you understand what the word means?
- ★ Do you know anyone you would describe as *extraordinary*?

Task 1



In groups of four, choose one of the front cover illustrations from the *Extraordinary Lives* series. First of all, discuss what you already know about the person on the cover. Then answer the following questions:

1. What does your illustration show? How?
2. How do you think it represents being *extraordinary*? Consider images, colours, shapes, actions of the characters.
3. Can you find any important objects or symbols in your illustration?

Present your group's findings to the class.

Task 2

Look at the three illustrations again. Can you find the following things and match them to the correct cover?

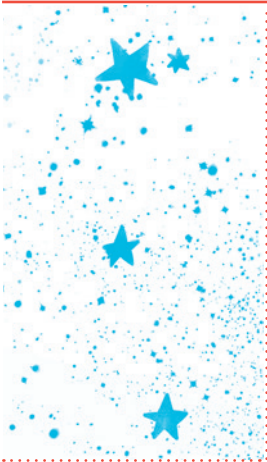


stars
book
microphone



Task 3

Now that you've found all the items in Task 2, write down what you think each of them could represent and what they help to tell us about the life of each person.

Use the grid below to record your ideas!

IMAGE	WHAT IT COULD REPRESENT	WHAT IT TELLS US ABOUT THE PERSON'S INTERESTS, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERSONALITY
		
		
		



Task 4

Now it's your turn! Choose a person you think is *extraordinary*. It can be a local hero or an international star!

The Extraordinary Person I have chosen is:

.....

Draw two things that would symbolize your chosen person's interests, achievements and personality. Remember to consider what the images represent and what they say about the person. If you have time, you can create an entirely new book cover! Don't forget to share your illustrations with us on

Twitter at @PuffinSchools!

ILLUSTRATIONS FOR MY EXTRAORDINARY PERSON





LESSON TWO IMPORTANT BIOGRAPHICAL FACTS

Lead-in questions:

- ★ Can you think of any historical figures who have inspired you? Why are they inspiring?
- ★ What do we mean by the word *profession*? What is your dream profession?
- ★ What do we mean by the term *biography*? Why is it important to share the stories of *extraordinary* people?

Task 1

Look back at the *Extraordinary Lives* book covers from Lesson One. Can you match one of the following descriptions to the person in each illustration? If there are any words you don't understand, use a dictionary to look them up.

- ★ Lawyer, writer, activist, First Lady of the United States of America

.....

- ★ Student, campaigner

.....

- ★ Physicist, cosmologist, author

.....

Extension task: KS2




Ask pupils to discuss the importance of each profession or skill listed in the descriptions, both in a historical and a modern context.



Task 2

The people included in these books are real people with real stories. Here are some *facts* about them taken from the books. Can you write down what the facts listed tell you about each person's talents, professions, identity and personality?

EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE FACTSHEET

EXTRAORDINARY PERSON	IMPORTANT FACTS	TALENTS AND PROFESSIONS	IDENTITY AND PERSONALITY
MICHELLE OBAMA 	<p>By 2016, Michelle was a lawyer, a mother of two, a writer, the founder of a charity tackling childhood obesity, a role model, an advocate for poverty awareness, a fashion icon and the first African-American First Lady of the United States of America.</p>		
MALALA YOUSAFZAI 	<p>Malala was known all over the world for her bravery in the face of the terror she had lived through. She continued campaigning for the education of women – which made the Taliban want to silence her even more. She was returning home from school one day when she was shot by two men from the Taliban, and she was taken unconscious to hospital. After miraculously surviving the shooting, this brave, determined young girl went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize.</p>		
STEPHEN HAWKING 	<p>He was a scientist who tried to answer difficult questions, such as 'How did the universe begin?' He definitely enjoyed a challenge. Even though his condition meant that his body became increasingly weak as he grew older, Stephen's mind remained strong and he kept working till the end of his life.</p>		



Task 3

Now that you have found out more information about some of these people, come up with a list of three questions you would like to ask them if you could interview them in real life.

MY QUESTIONS:

1.

.....

.....

2.

.....

.....

3.

.....

.....

Extension task: KS2

Ask pupils to carry out more research into the three people mentioned in Task 2 and share their findings with the class in a presentation.

Task 4

What facts do you know about the person you chose to create illustrations for in Task 4 of Lesson One? Carry out some research by looking in your school library or using the Internet to find newspaper articles, videos, biography pages on Wikipedia, or blogs. Create your own factsheet listing some of the important facts you would include in that person's *biography*.



FACTS ABOUT *My Extraordinary Person*

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



LESSON THREE OVERCOMING CHALLENGES IN LIFE

Lead-in questions:

- ★ What is a challenge?
- ★ What challenges have you faced so far in your life?

Task 1

- ★ What sort of challenges might people face when trying to achieve their ambitions?

Look at the six challenges on the cards below. Rank them in order from 1–6 (*where 1 is the most difficult challenge and 6 is the least*). Can you think of any other challenges than those listed here?

DISABILITY

LACK OF MONEY

PREJUDICE FROM OTHERS

LACK OF EDUCATION

WAR AND VIOLENCE

RACISM



Task 2

The key trait that most *extraordinary* people share is the ability to *overcome challenges* in their lives in order to lead others.

Look at the following facts from *The Extraordinary Life of Michelle Obama*. Can you spot any of the challenges discussed in Task 1? Again, rank these challenges in order from 1–4 (*where 1 is the most difficult challenge and 4 is the least*). Give reasons for your ideas.

- ★ Michelle's family didn't have a lot of money when she was growing up.

☐

.....

.....

- ★ Her dad had a condition called multiple sclerosis, which affects the brain and the spinal cord. But, even though he had this illness, he went to work every day without fail.

☐

.....

.....

- ★ Neither of Michelle's parents had been to university. Michelle was the first in her family to go.

☐

.....

.....

- ★ While at university in Princeton, she was assigned a white roommate whose mother made her move out after one term because she didn't want her daughter sharing with a black girl.

☐

.....

.....





Task 3

Consider the *extraordinary* person you have chosen. Using books in your school library or articles and videos online, find out about the challenges that he/she faced in his/her life, and how he/she overcame them. Record your ideas on the sheet below:

CHALLENGES FOR MY EXTRAORDINARY PERSON

CHALLENGE FACED	HOW HE/SHE OVERCAME THE CHALLENGE





LESSON FOUR CREATING A BIOGRAPHY

Lead-in questions:

- ★ What makes someone *extraordinary*?
- ★ What impact has an *extraordinary* person had on other people?
- ★ What impact has an *extraordinary* person had on the world?

Task 1

In this lesson you are going to bring everything you have found out together so far to create a short biography for the chosen *extraordinary* person. First of all, discuss with a partner:

- ★ Who is your *extraordinary* person and why did you choose him/her?
- ★ What is unique about your *extraordinary* person?
- ★ What facts have you found out about your *extraordinary* person?
- ★ What challenges did your *extraordinary* person have to overcome?
- ★ What impact has your *extraordinary* person had on you and the rest of the world?

Task 2

Now: using all the things you have learned so far, fill in the Puffin Schools template (on next pages) in order to create your very own *Extraordinary Life* biography! When you have finished, don't forget to share your biography with us on **Twitter at @PuffinSchools** – we can't wait to add them to the collection!



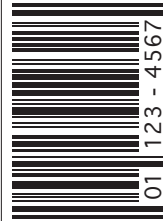
WRITTEN BY:

ILLUSTRATED BY:

This is the story of

FOLD

THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF



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01 123 - 4567



www.puffinschools.co.uk



FACTS: EARLY LIFE

Hometown, Culture, Religion, Family, Education

[illegible]

CHALLENGES FACED AND OVERCOME

FACTS: LATER LIFE

Ambitions, Skills, Talents, Achievements, Identity, Personality traits

[illegible]

IMPACT ON THE WORLD



EXTRAORDINARY LIVES: REFLECTION ACTIVITIES

Take a look at the work you have completed. You should find the following things:

- ✓ Illustrations for your chosen *extraordinary person*
- ✓ Factsheets for your chosen *extraordinary person*
- ✓ A list of challenges overcome by your *extraordinary person*
- ✓ A short biographical booklet for your *extraordinary person*

With your partner, take turns to complete the following statements:

★ I think being *extraordinary* means

.....

.....

★ The person I have learned most about is

.....

.....

★ I would like to be an *extraordinary person* because

.....

.....

★ A biography of my own life would be called

because

.....

.....

.....

Thank you for using this Puffin Schools resource pack

Puffin Schools is dedicated to inspiring teachers and librarians to share stories and celebrate the power of reading with children and young people. We offer resources and advice for turning the most reluctant readers into bookworms with the help of our incredible authors including Roald Dahl, Jacqueline Wilson and Jeff Kinney.

For more on this, please visit www.puffinschools.co.uk

