



People We Should Know is a series of biographies designed for beginning readers.

As a boy, Walt Disney loved to draw. That talent helped Walt Disney create some of our earliest and favorite cartoon characters. He went on to make great movies and develop amusement parks. Walt Disney is a person we should know because his imagination helped entertain people around the world. - *Weekly Reader Publishing*

THEMES



Never Give Up
Effort
Doing Your Best
Chasing Dreams

Build Background

Write the following quote on the board or on chart paper: *“If you can dream it, you can do it.”* – Walt Disney

Ask students to discuss their thoughts on what this quote means. Note: all ideas should be accepted at this point. Students may actually discuss more about things that you “get” versus things you “do.” This is appropriate at this grade level because the quote will be revisited after the book is read.

Key Vocabulary

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| sketchpad | pg 7 |
| advertisements | pg 9 |
| animated | pg 10 |
| sketched | pg 13 |
| experts | pg 15 |
| amusement park | pg 18 |

Vocabulary words are in bold and defined in the book glossary

Discussion Starters



1. What things stood in the way of Walt Disney’s dreams?
2. What did Walt Disney do to make sure his dreams came true?
3. What did you find interesting about Walt Disney’s life?
4. How are the messages from Walt Disney and NED similar?

Writing Prompt



Agree or Disagree Explain to the students that an *opinion* is the way you think or feel about something. Look back at the quote from ‘Building Background.’ Ask students to revise or add to their thinking. *What do we know about him now that would make us understand this quote a little better?* When writing a paragraph about our opinions, we give reasons as to why we feel a certain way. You will be deciding if you agree or disagree with the quote remembering that there is no right or wrong answer.



PRINTABLE:

Agree or Disagree

Activity



Cover a bulletin board with blue paper and title it, “Dreams Can Come True.” Students can then use white paper to create a cloud. Ask students to write a sentence about a dream that they have for themselves. Include a trait that it will take to achieve the dream (e.g. “determination” or “focus”). Decorate the clouds with glitter and cotton balls or tissue paper.

More Resources

Accelerated Reading Quiz: 101115

Question & Answer ‘with Walt’: www.justdisney.com/walt_disney/askwalt

