

# Walt Disney

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# **Chapter One**

## **Who Was Walt Disney**

Walt Disney was born December 5, 1901, in Chicago, Illinois.

Walt had three brothers and one sister. He grew up in Marceline, Missouri.

Walt started drawing when he was young and would sell his drawings to friends and family.

Walt took art classes when he was in high school and helped make the cartoons for the school paper.

When he was 16 he dropped out of high school to join the Army. However, he was rejected because he was underage.

Instead, he joined the Red Cross and spent a year in France driving an ambulance.



## **Chapter Two**

### **Early Career**

### **Before "Disney"**

Once Walt returned from France he pursued his career as a newspaper artist.

His brother helped him get a job at Pesmen-Rubin Art Studio.

There he created commercials and started experimenting with a camera and incorporating hand-drawn animation.

This sparked something in Walt and he decided to open his own ad company.

He started making cartoons for Kansas City Theater, but unfortunately went bankrupt.

Walt and his brother put their money together and opened the Disney Brother Studio, in California.



## **Chapter 3**

### **Early Achievements**

Mickey Mouse was one of Walt's greatest creations. Mickey Mouse was originally called Mortimer. It was Disney's wife that suggested changing Mortimer's name to Mickey.



Mickey's friends Donald, Pluto, and Goofy were introduced in the 1930s. This change brought new life, interest, and excitement to Mickey Mouse.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs was one of Disney's biggest beginning movies because the profit from this movie allowed Walt to build a new state-of-the-art studio.

This movie opened doors for Walt, which allowed him to create other movies like Pinocchio, Fantasia, Dumbo, and Bambi.



## **Chapter 4**

### **Later Achievements**

Walt continued to have success and created many more popular hits, such as Mary Poppins, 101 Dalmatians, The Sword in the Stone, and The Mickey Mouse Club.

One of Walt's most famous creations is the Disneyland interactive theme park. This park was so popular that there were Disneyland branches in Tokyo, Paris and Hong Kong.

**U.S**



**Paris**



**Tokyo Disneyland**



## **Chapter 5**

### **Continued Successes After Death**

Walt Disney died December 15, 1966. He died from lung cancer at the age of 65.

Before Walt died he was in the process of creating a theme park greater than Disneyland. However, Walt was never able to see his creation completed.

When Walt passed his brother took on the responsibility of finishing the theme park. The park would

be located in Orlando,  
Florida, and in 1971, Disney  
World was opened.



Disney studio is still  
creating popular movies that  
Walt would be proud of,  
such as Beauty and the  
Beast, The Little Mermaid,  
Brave, Tangled, Frozen, and

many more.

Walt Disney has touched the lives of millions of people! His legacy still continues to this day, and he will forever be in the hearts of children and adults alike.



## **Glossary**

Responsibility: being accountable for something within one's power, control, or management.

Animation: a technique used in the production of cartoons.

Bankrupt: declared by law to be unable to pay debts.

# Works Referenced

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# Common Core State Standards

## CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.7

Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).

## CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.8

Describe the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraph in a text (e.g., comparison, cause/effect, first/second /third in a sequence).

## CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.2

Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.

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