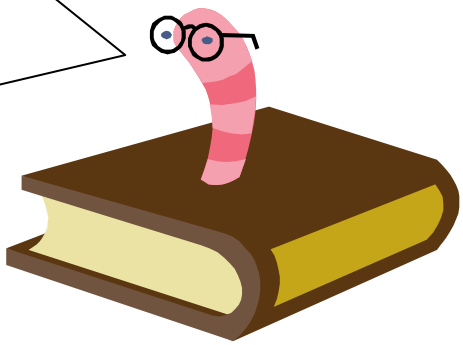
Biographies for Kids

In this fun book you will learn all about biographies and autobiographies with a very special helper!

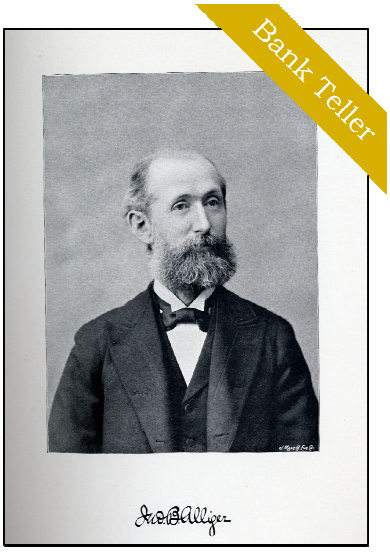
An activity booklet for kids created by the
Ulster County Clerk's Records Management Program

Nina Postupack, County Clerk

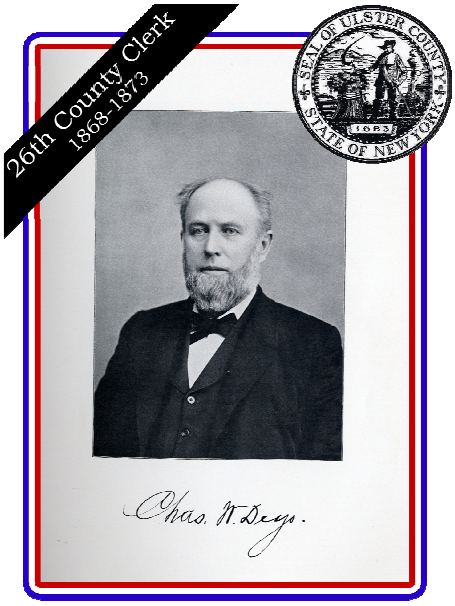
Hi! My name is Betsy Bookworm and I will be your helper. I can help you learn all about biographies and why they are important. Here in the Ulster County Clerk's Archives, we have a book of biographies from 1896. That's over 100 years ago! I wonder what life was like in 1896. What did people do? Where did they work? I can show you some of the pictures in our book. Do you think people in 1896 looked and dressed the same as people do today? Did they have the same kind of jobs?



Bank Teller



26th County Clerk
1868-1873



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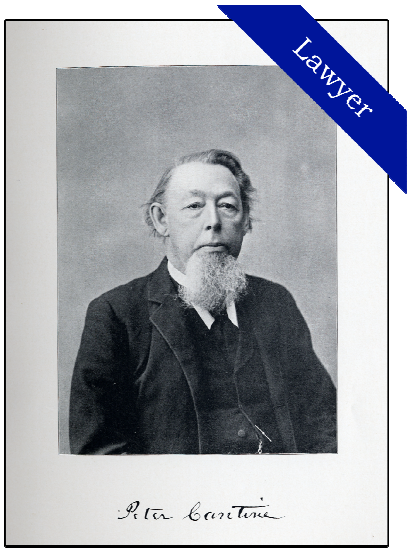

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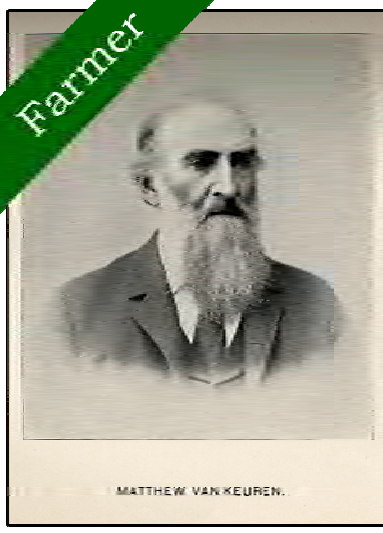

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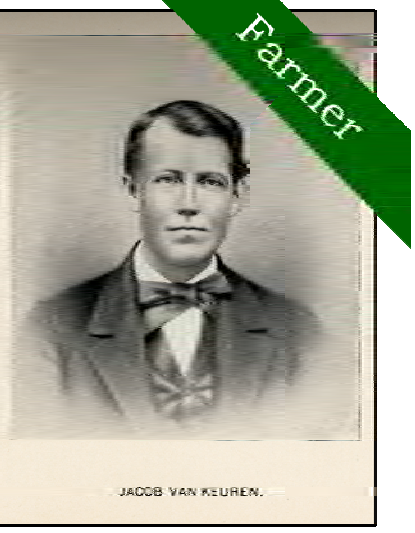
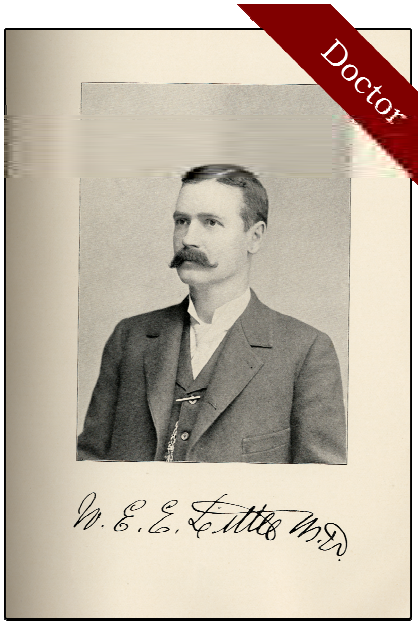
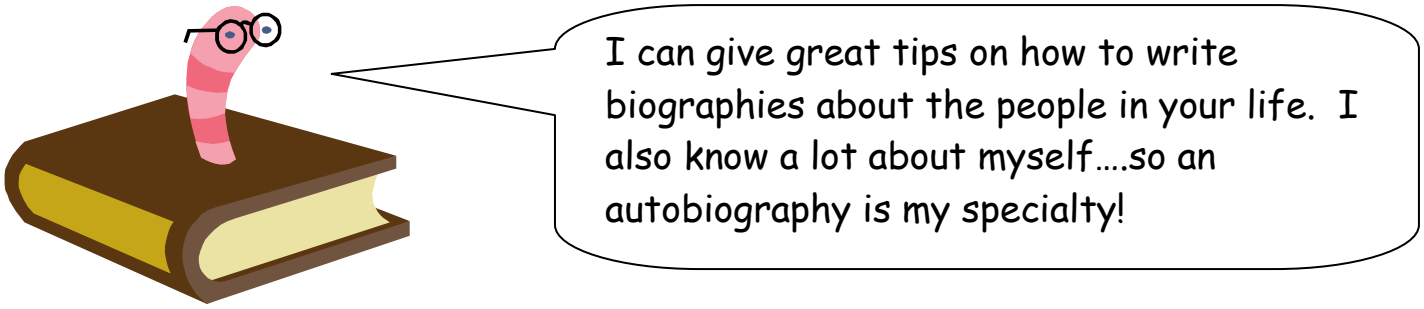


Doctor





What is a Biography?

The story of a person's life written or told by another person

What is an Autobiography?

The story of a person's life written or told by that person

I can write a biography all about you,
or
I can write an autobiography all about me!

My Autobiography
by Betsy Bookworm

Full Name: Elizabeth Ann Bookworm **Nickname:** Betsy

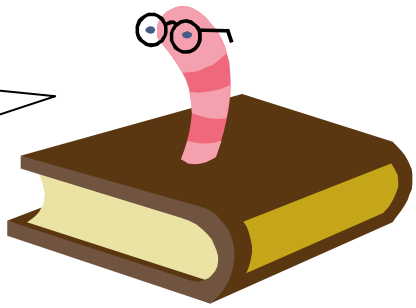
Date of Birth: August 29, 2000 **Place of Birth:** Kingston, NY

I live in: Kingston, NY **My School:** Bookworm Academy

My Story: I have lived in Kingston my whole life. I live with my mom, dad, brother Bobby and Uncle Bart. My grandma Beth lives down the street and I get to spend the night with her anytime I want. My brother Bobby is 2 years older than me and he thinks he is so cool....but he's really not. At least I don't think he is! Uncle Bart is a lot of fun. He tells funny stories and always makes me laugh. Mom reads to me every night before bed and Dad takes Bobby and me to the bookstore whenever we want to go!

I like reading, writing stories, listening to music, playing with my friends and singing in the choir at school. My best friend is Belinda. She likes the same things I do and we have fun together. In the summer we love to play in the backyard or at the playground by our school. Blaire, Brenda and Becky are some of my other friends. We have a great time when one of us has a sleepover. We watch movies and play hide-and-seek.

Now it is your turn to write your own autobiography!



My Autobiography

by _____

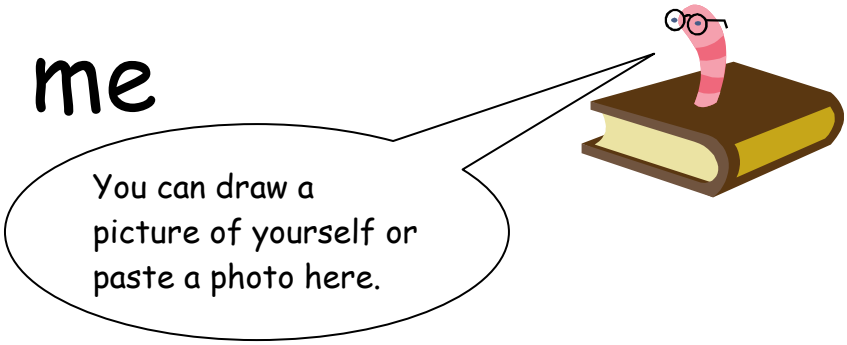
Full Name: _____ Nickname: _____

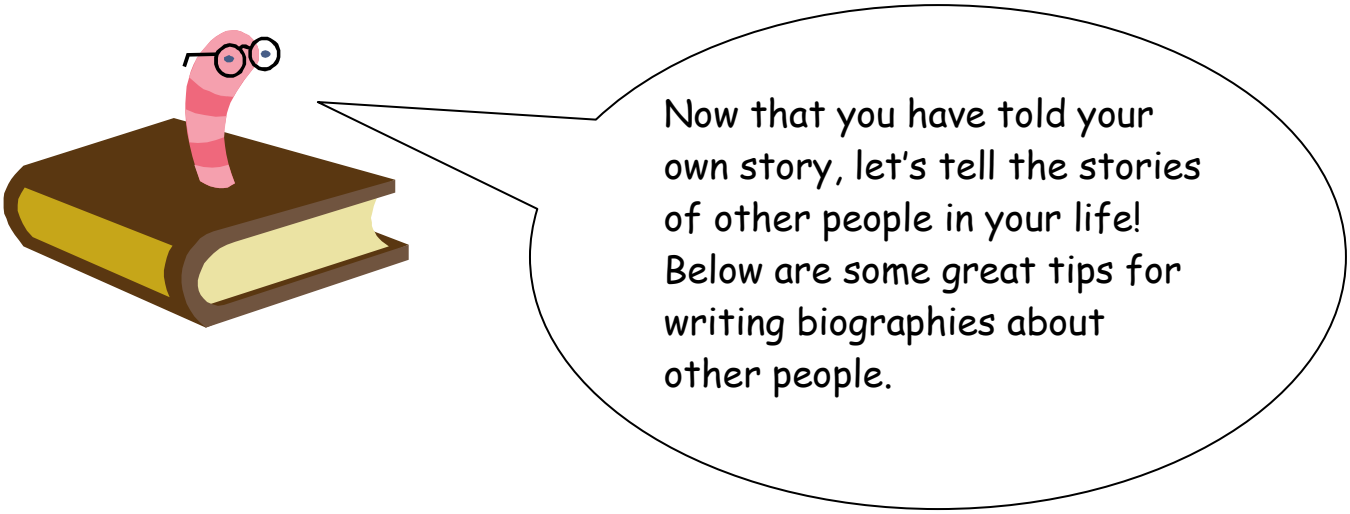
Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

I live in: _____ My School: _____

My Story:

A picture of me





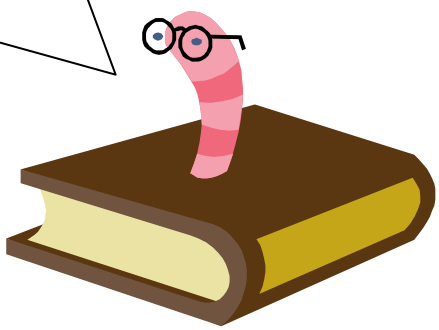
1. Make a list of the people who are important to you and write a biography about each person. You could write about your family, friends, teachers, neighbors…anyone you want!

2. Before you write someone's biography, ask lots of questions. You can sit down with each person and write down all the important details.

3. Take a picture or make a drawing of each person to add to their biographies.

<u>People I want to write about</u>:

Here are some sample questions you might want to ask or you can make your own list of questions! There is room in this book to write 6 biographies. If you would like to write more than 6 biographies, ask an adult to make copies of the blank pages in this book or you can use a pad of paper to make your own book.



Where did you grow up?

What do you do for fun?

Who is your best friend?

What is your favorite food?

When is your birthday?

What is your favorite game?

What are your parents & grandparents names?

Do you have any brothers or sisters?

How do you spend your free time?

What sports do you like?

Do you have a favorite movie?

What kind of music do you listen to?

<u>Other questions I want to ask</u>:

A Biography of _____

by _____

Full Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

A picture of _____

A Biography of _____

by _____

Full Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

A picture of _____

A Biography of _____

by _____

Full Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

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Full Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

A picture of _____

A Biography of _____

by _____

Full Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

A picture of _____

You are now a fully trained writer of biographies and autobiographies! Maybe you could mark a day on next year's calendar to pull out this book and see if you want to add anything. Did you make a new friend? Do you have a new brother or sister? Are you in a new club at school?

Once you fill up this book and any more books you create, put them in a safe place. Pick someplace that is dry and will protect your book. That way your autobiography and the biographies of the people in your life will be safe from damage. At the Ulster County Clerk's Archives, we keep our books in a safe room on shelves so we can look at them any time!

Would you like to see our records and how we keep them safe? You can come visit the Ulster County Clerk's Archives any time! All you have to do is ask your parents or teacher to call us. We will show you our records and you can bring your records to show us!

Thank you for spending time with me and learning how to write a biography and an autobiography. It has been fun getting to know you and the important people in your life!

Your Friend,

Betsy Bookworm

A publication of the Ulster County Clerk's
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