

Daily Comprehension

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INTRODUCTION

Daily Comprehension is a 12-book series with each volume covering a single month of the year. The format features an “on-this-day-in-history” approach. A short, factual story about a person, place, or event is presented for each day of the month and was chosen because of its particular significance on that certain date.

Each story is accompanied by an activity page, which tests the student’s comprehension of the article’s content. Activities include questions, crossword puzzles, fill-in-the-blanks, and more. A related research project for each story requires the use of a dictionary, an almanac, an encyclopedia, or an atlas.

The books are designed for use in grades 5-12. Readability is on the 3rd-4th grade level.

CONTENTS

James Earl Carter, Jr.....	1-2
Charlie Brown.....	3-4
Woody Guthrie	5-6
Sputnik I	7-8
Sad Day for Native Americans	9-10
Alexander Graham Bell.....	11-12
Trapped Whales	13-14
Alvin York.....	15-16
Leif Ericson.....	17-18
Panama Canal.....	19-20
Eleanor Roosevelt.....	21-22
Columbus Day.....	23-24
The White House	25-26
Attempted Assassination.....	27-28
John L. Sullivan.....	29-30
John Brown: Harpers Ferry.....	31-32
Jefferson Davis.....	33-34
Hidden Treasure.....	35-36
Napoleon	37-38
Mickey Mantle	39-40
Alfred Nobel.....	41-42
Sam Houston.....	43-44
Trapped Miners	45-46
United Nations Day	47-48
Pablo Picasso.....	49-50
Gunfight at the OK Corral.....	51-52
Theodore Roosevelt.....	53-54
Jonas Salk.....	55-56
Sir Walter Raleigh	57-58
John Adams.....	59-60
National Magic Day	59-60
Answer Key	61-62

JAMES EARL CARTER, JR.



On October 1, 1924, James Earl Carter was born in Plains, Georgia. James became better known as Jimmy Carter, the 39th President of the United States. He served as President from 1977 to 1981.

Jimmy Carter was raised on a farm where his father grew peanuts. As a young boy about five years old, he sold peanuts on the streets of Plains.

Carter was a good student and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1946.

After Carter's father died in 1953, he left the navy and returned home to run the family farm.

Before he became President, Carter was elected to the Senate in Georgia. He later became the governor of that state.

As President, Carter helped bring

about a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

The population of the U.S. was about 228 million people in 1981, the year President Carter left office.

Carter was defeated in the 1980 election by Ronald Reagan. After Reagan took office, Carter returned to his home in Plains.

It was in 1982 that Carter wrote a book entitled *Keeping Faith: Memoirs of a President*.

Beginning in the mid-1980s, Carter began working as a volunteer carpenter for a nonprofit group that builds houses for the poor.

In September 1994, former President Jimmy Carter helped the United States government bring about a peaceful agreement to remove the military leaders of the Caribbean country of Haiti.

JAMES EARL CARTER, JR.

Across:

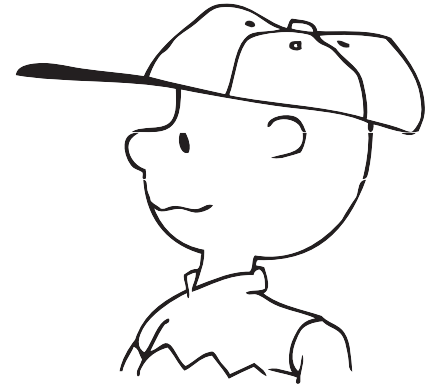
- 3. In 1994, Carter helped negotiate an agreement with _____.
- 4. Ronald _____ defeated Carter in 1980.
- 9. Carter was born in _____, Georgia.
- 10. Carter was the governor of _____.
- 11. _____ were grown on Carter's farm.

Down:

- 1. Carter was born in the month of _____.
- 2. In the 1980s, Carter volunteered as a _____.
- 5. Carter was the _____ of Georgia.
- 6. Carter was raised on a _____.
- 7. Carter helped bring about peace between Egypt and _____.
- 8. Carter graduated from the Naval _____ in 1946.
- 9. Jimmy Carter was elected the 39th _____ of the United States.

Research: Read about *George Washington Carver* in an encyclopedia. What did he do that made peanut farming a big business?

CHARLIE BROWN



On October 2, 1950, Charlie Brown was born. He wasn't born like other children. He was created by the cartoonist Charles Schulz.

Charlie Brown is the leading character in the comic strip *Peanuts*.

On October 2, 1950, the *Peanuts* comic strip appeared in nine newspapers. Today, it appears in about 2,000 newspapers.

Charles Schulz has said, "I like to think of Charlie Brown as being a bit of every man. Most people would admit to often feeling a bit like him; some of us more often than others."

Schulz said that there was a lot of himself in Charlie Brown. He said that many of his ideas came from

things that happened to him when he was young. For example, one time young Schulz stood in line in order to get into a movie theater. The first 500 kids would get a free candy bar. Schulz said he stood in line for hours. When he finally reached the window, he was told that they had run out of candy bars. Years later, Charlie Brown had the same thing happen to him.

Charlie Brown has a sister named Sally and a dog named Snoopy. His friends are Linus, Lucy, Peppermint Patty, Marcie, and Schroeder.

Even though Charlie Brown's life seems to be a never-ending struggle, he is a likeable person. He's decent, kind, and never stops trying.

Name _____

CHARLIE BROWN

Answer the questions.

1. When was Charlie Brown born? _____
2. Who created Charlie Brown? _____
3. Even though Charlie remains a child in the comic strip, how old is he now? _____
4. How many newspapers does the comic strip appear in today? _____
5. What is the comic strip called? _____
6. What is the name of Charlie's dog? _____
7. Who is Charlie's sister? _____
8. Where did Charles Schulz get a lot of his ideas for the comic strip?

9. What are the names of Charlie's friends? _____

10. Why is Charlie a likeable person? _____

Research: Find the word *fictional* in a dictionary. Write what it means.