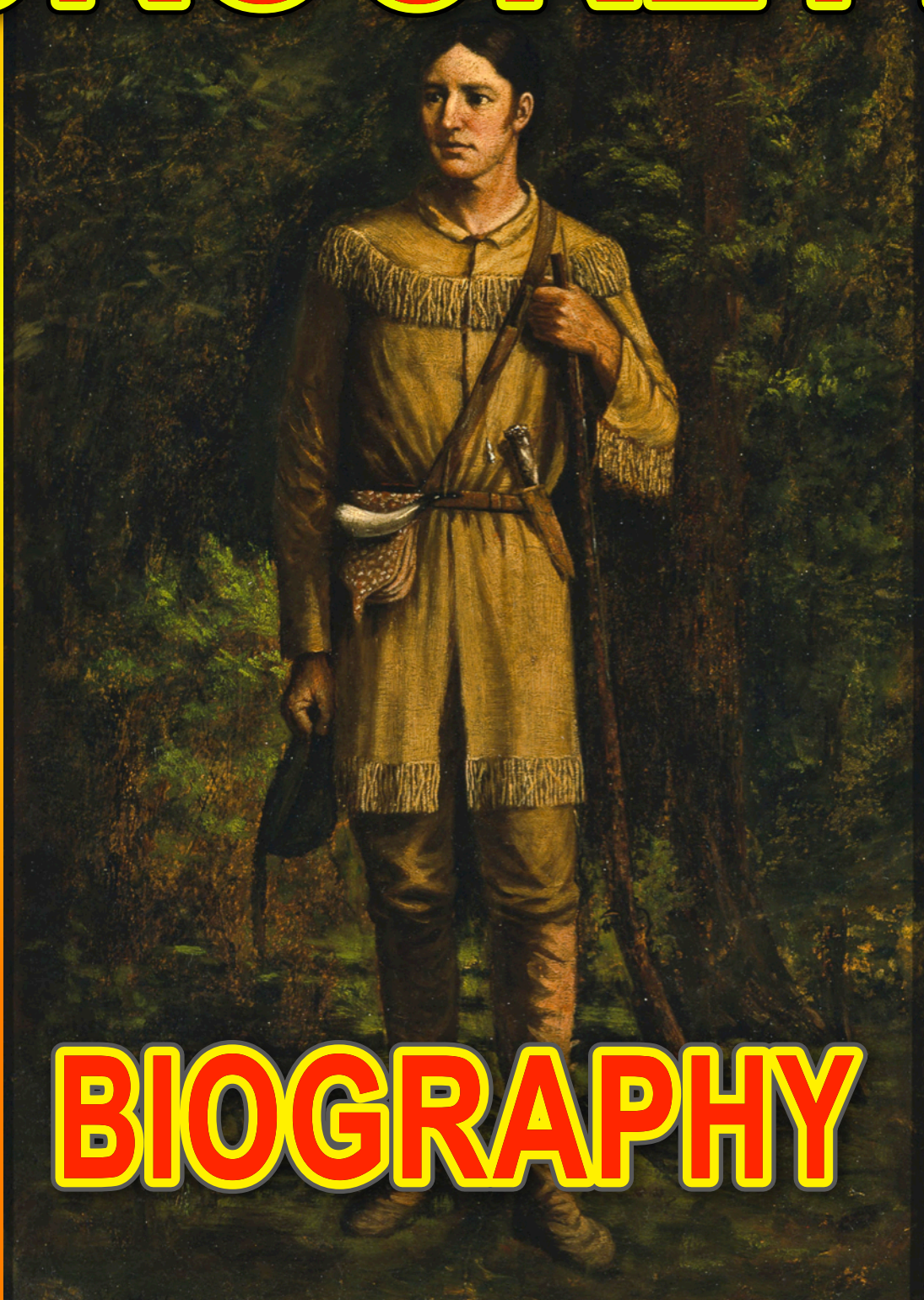


DAVY CROCKETT



BIOGRAPHY

DAVY CROCKETT

Davy Crockett was born in Greene County, Tennessee, on August 17, 1786. This was the time of the frontier, and his family moved around when he was young. Crockett learned how to shoot a rifle, and he went on hunting trips, even as a child. Aged 13, he got into a fight at school, and he ran away for three years.

Crockett became an army scout in 1813. He was stationed in Tennessee, and took part in a revenge attack on Native Americans in Alabama. Crockett's wilderness skills came in useful when tracking the Native Americans in difficult landscape.

After that period of war, Crockett returned to Tennessee, and then became involved in politics. He used his story-telling and speaking skills to get audiences' attention. From 1821 to 1823, Crockett was a member of the Tennessee State House of Representatives. After that, he was in Congress three times.

But after losing out in the 1835 Congress election, Crockett left politics. He moved to Texas, which was fighting for independence from Mexico. On his way to Texas, Crockett passed through Little Rock, Arkansas. There, crowds of people turned out to see the famous figure of the frontier.

In March 1836, Crockett fought at the Battle of the Alamo in Texas. Crockett fought hard with his rifle, and eventually his knife. But, in the end, Mexican soldiers overwhelmed him, and he died at the battle. Even by the time of his death, Davy Crockett had passed into legend as a folk hero of the frontier.

Understanding words

Before we can understand a story we have to know what all of the words mean. Let's try one...

a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'hunting'.

b From that sentence, suggest what 'hunting' means.

c Write a new sentence using the word 'hunting'.

d Use a dictionary to find words with a similar meaning (synonyms) to 'hunting'.

e Draw a small picture showing what you think 'hunting' means.

Finding key words

Next, we need to find the key words that tell us what the story is about...

Read the story and underline the key words. Write the most important of these key words in a list like the one below. Write next to it a word that means a similar thing (a synonym). You don't have to use all the spaces, but you should not use more.

Key word	Synonym (similar word)
Example: overwhelmed	defeated

Sequencing

Sequencing means getting the events in the right order. Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense.

In 1813, Crockett joined the army.

Crockett was a member of the Tennessee State House of Representatives.

In 1836, Crockett died at the Battle of the Alamo in Texas.

Davy Crockett was born in Tennessee in 1786.

After leaving politics, Crockett moved to Texas, and joined the war for independence from Mexico.

As a child, Crockett learned how to shoot and hunt.

After leaving the army, Crockett entered politics.

Get to the facts

1 Where was Davy Crockett born?

2 When did Crockett become an army scout?

3 How many times was Crockett in Congress?

4 Where did Crockett move to later on?

5 In which battle did Crockett die?

Make a story...

When you read a description it often gives you ideas about how the event might be described differently.

Into the wilderness

Imagine you are running away from home into the wilds of the frontier... (now complete the story)

Below is a plain text version for printing:

Understanding words:

- a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'hunting'.
- b From that sentence, suggest what 'hunting' means.
- c Write a new sentence using the word 'hunting'.
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Finding key words:

Read the story and underline the key words. Write the most important of these key words in a list. Write next to it a word that means a similar thing (a synonym).

For example:

Key word – overwhelmed

Synonym – defeated

Sequencing:

Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense:

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Crockett was a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives.

In 1836, Crockett died at the Battle of the Alamo in Texas.

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