



ENID BLYTON



“Writing for children is an art in itself, and a most interesting one.”

EARLY LIFE

Enid Mary Blyton was a children’s writer born in London in 1897 she attended St Christopher’s school in Beckenham where she was tennis champion, Lacrosse Champion and Head Girl. She entered a poetry competition in 1911 and was encouraged to continue writing. Her first book was a 24-page collection of poems. Blyton wrote on a wide range of topics including education, natural history, fantasy and mystery at the same time as working as a teacher. A lot of Blyton’s books describe friendship for example The Famous Five and The Secret Seven series of books. She was born on the 11th August 1897 and died on the 28th November 1968.

FAMOUS WORKS

THE FAMOUS FIVE

The Famous Five is a series of children's adventure novels. The first book, Five on a Treasure Island, was published in 1942. The novels feature the adventures of a group of young children – Julian, Dick, Anne and Georgina (George) – and their dog Timmy. The stories take place in the children's school holidays after they have returned from their respective boarding schools. Each time they meet they get caught up in an adventure, often involving criminals or lost treasure.

THE SECRET SEVEN

The Secret Seven is a fictional group of child detectives created by Enid Blyton. The Secret Seven consists of Peter, Janet, Jack, Barbara, George, Pam and Colin. Jack’s sister Susie and her best friend Binkie make occasional appearances in the books; they hate the Secret Seven and delight in playing tricks designed to humiliate them, although this is partly fuelled by their almost obsessive desire to belong to the society. Unlike most other Blyton series, this one takes place during the school term time because the characters do not go to boarding schools.

INTERESTING FACT

Not all Enid Blyton books were fiction. She wrote a series of Maths books which were for a time the standard in all primary schools in the UK.



FAMOUS QUOTES

“Nothing like having a bucket of cold water flung over you to make you see things as they really are!”

— Enid Blyton, Five Have a Mystery to Solve

“Adventures always come to the adventurous, there's no doubt about that!”

— Enid Blyton, Five Go to Smuggler's Top

FIND OUT MORE

<https://www.enidblytonsociety.co.uk/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oYM1OAKUsW8>

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. What year was Enid Blyton born?
2. What profession did Enid already have when she started writing?
3. What was her first book about?
4. What school did Enid attend?
5. She also wrote a set of non-fiction books! What subject were they about?
6. What was the name of the dog in the series of Famous Five books?
7. Where was she born?
8. What school did Enid attend?
9. What year did she die?