

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Jane Addams: A Life of Service

By Kimberly M. Hutmacher

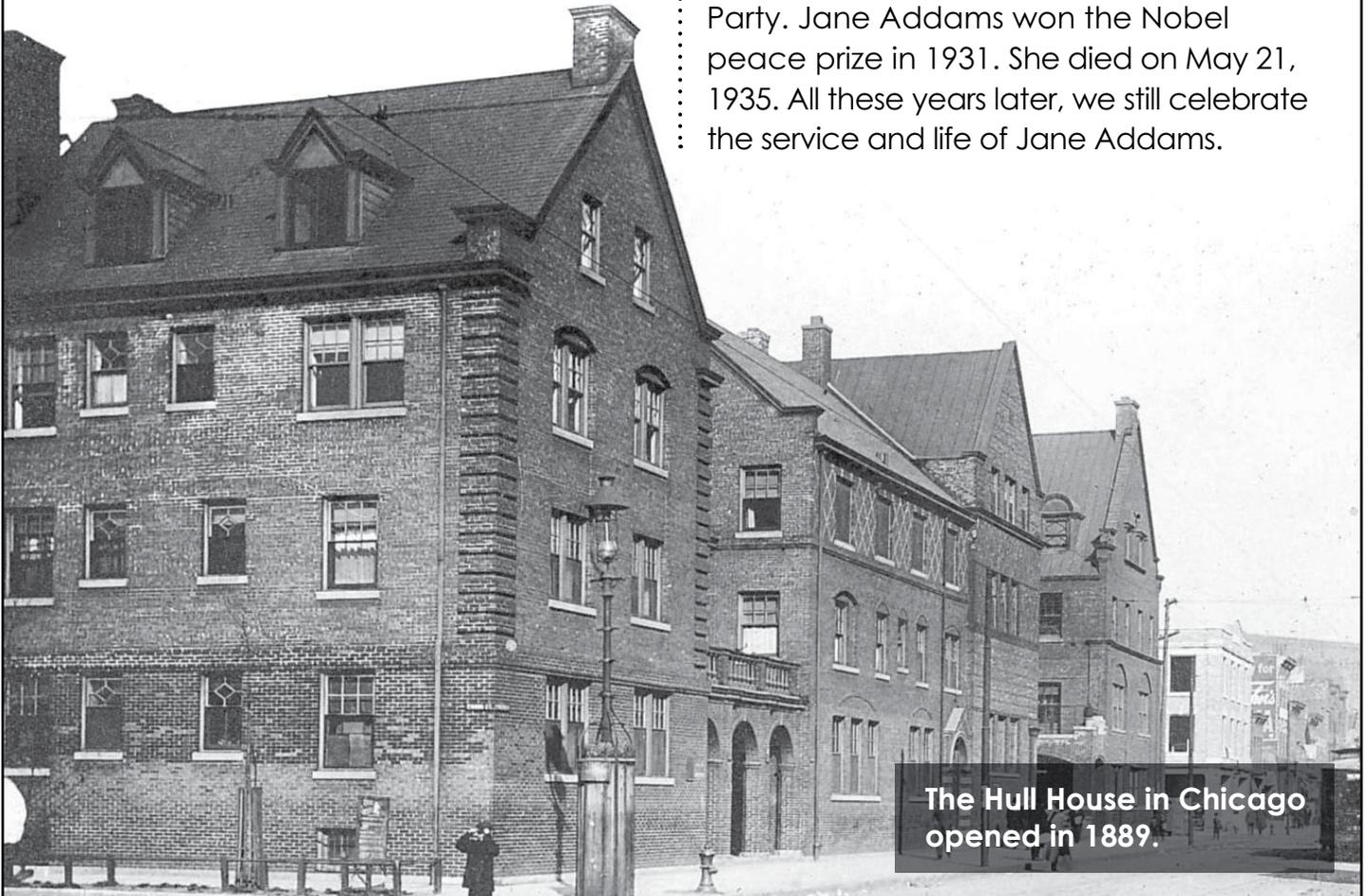


**B**orn into a wealthy Illinois family with a long history of public service, Jane Addams wondered what she could do to help others. Jane remembered the Chicago slums she had seen as a child, and she thought she might want to open a place that would provide education and recreation to the poor.

In 1889, Jane and her friend Ellen Gates made Jane's dream a reality. They opened Hull House in Chicago.

Among its many activities, Hull House provided a place for poor immigrant families to play games, listen to poetry readings or take music or painting classes.

Jane Addam's public service didn't stop with Hull House. Jane worked for laws to end child labor and campaigned for women's rights. She served as president of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and was chairman of the Women's Peace Party. Jane Addams won the Nobel peace prize in 1931. She died on May 21, 1935. All these years later, we still celebrate the service and life of Jane Addams.



The Hull House in Chicago opened in 1889.

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# Jane Addams: A Life of Service

By Kimberly M. Hulmacher



1. According to the information in this passage, why is Jane Addams an important historical person?
  - a. She fought against providing education and recreation for the poor.
  - b. She worked hard to make life easier for the poor and she fought for women's rights.
  - c. She founded the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.
  - d. She was a poor immigrant who dedicated her life to helping others in Chicago.
  
2. Jane Addams worked for laws to end child labor. What does this mean?
  - a. She believed young children should work hard in school.
  - b. She believed schools were forcing children to work too hard.
  - c. She believed children shouldn't be forced to work long hours to earn money for their families.
  - d. She believed children should work longer hours and earn more money.
  
3. Which word best describes Jane Addams?

**compassionate**

**inconsiderate**

**greedy**

Why did you choose this word?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Louisa May Alcott

By Kimberly M. Hutmacher

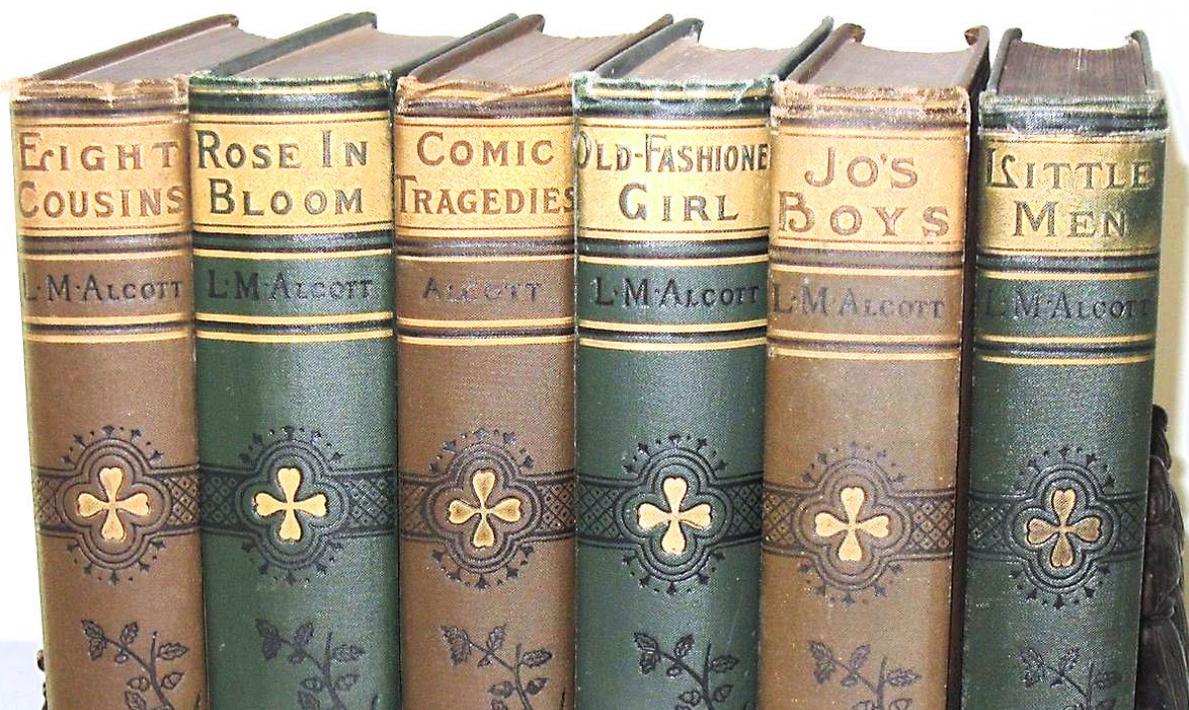


Louisa May Alcott was born on November 29, 1832. She was one of five children. Louisa spent most of her childhood in Concord, Massachusetts. She and her sisters spent lots of their free time acting out plays that Louisa had written. Many remarkable people lived in Concord during this time. Henry David Thoreau taught Louisa to love the natural world around her, and Ralph Waldo Emerson introduced Louisa to books.

Louisa's first stories were published when she was just 16 years old. She published her first book at the age of 22. Louisa spent some time working as a nurse in a soldiers' hospital during the Civil War.

She wrote and published a book about this experience titled, *Hospital Sketches*. This book became her first well known work. However, her most well known work was written in 1868 and 1869. *Little Women* was based on Louisa's childhood in Concord with her sisters. Louisa was Jo, the heroine of the story. *Little Women* became so popular that it became part of a series. Louisa went on to write *Little Men*, *Jo's Boys* and many other works.

Louisa May Alcott died on March 6, 1888. Over 100 years later, her books remain a childhood favorite.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Louisa May Alcott

By Kimberly M. Hutmacher



1. What is Louisa May Alcott most famous for?
  - a. working as a nurse during the civil war
  - b. writing the book, Little Women
  - c. writing the book, Hospital sketches
  - d. writing plays that were acted out by her sisters

2. Place these events in sequential order.

*(Label each sentence 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, or 6th.)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Louisa worked as a nurse.

\_\_\_\_\_ Louisa wrote Little Men and Jo's Boys.

\_\_\_\_\_ Louisa wrote plays and acted them out with her sisters.

\_\_\_\_\_ Louisa May Alcott was born.

\_\_\_\_\_ Louisa wrote her most famous book, Little Women.

\_\_\_\_\_ Louisa's first book was published.

3. How old was Louisa May Alcott when she died?

a. 45

b. 55

c. 65

d. over 100

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Great Minds: J. K. Rowling

by Lydia Lukidis

Wizards, Hogwarts, and Gryffindors! Everybody knows J. K. Rowling is the author of the ever popular Harry Potter series. Everybody knows she's incredibly successful, famous, and rich. But Rowling's past wasn't so magical. She certainly didn't have anything handed to her on a silver platter. She represents a true rags to riches story.

Let's go back in time for a moment. Rowling was born in 1965 in Yate, England. Her parents were voracious readers. She grew up surrounded by books. She quickly became a bookworm and dreamed of being a writer. Her favorite subjects in school were English and languages. No surprise there. By the age of six, she wrote her first story. By the age of eleven, she wrote her first full length novel. That's pretty incredible!

Upon graduating university, she worked a series of jobs in London as a secretary and teacher. She also worked at Amnesty International. In 1991, Rowling left England to work as an English teacher in Portugal. That's where she met her first husband. They quickly got married and welcomed a child shortly after.

Unfortunately, this was a turbulent era for Rowling. Soon after her daughter was born, her marriage fell apart. The couple got divorced. In an instant, she lost everything. She became homeless and unemployed.

Now a single mother, she moved back to England. She lived in a tiny apartment and looked after her daughter. She survived on public assistance and had a few brief odd jobs here and there. But she never gave up on her writing. She continued to write stories every chance she got. She would write in cafes as her daughter napped.

Rowling first dreamed up Harry Potter when she was delayed on a train. She was



**“Happiness can be found,  
even in the darkest of times,  
if one only remembers  
to turn on the light.”**

*- J. K. Rowling*

imagining creating a place where a child could have power. This is what sparked the idea of Hogwarts, the School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

Over the next five years, she developed her ideas and outlined the series of seven books. She scribbled her notes by hand on scraps of paper and napkins. Soon she had a pile of notes that she had to piece together. Despite living in poverty and suffering from depression, she persevered.

When she finished the first manuscript (Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone), it was rejected. That seems unbelievable! In fact, it was rejected a dozen times. This went on for a year. Then the publishing company Bloomsbury finally accepted it. The first book was published in 1997.

As soon as the book hit the market, it gained instant popularity. Rowling began to receive thousands of letters from fans. It appealed both to children and adults. The Harry Potter series is now published in 80 languages, and has sold over 500 million copies across the world.

Cut to today, and Rowling is wildly successful in her professional career. As you all know, the merchandising of Harry

Potter alone is pretty extraordinary. She gets royalty checks for each Harry Potter item sold, from lunch boxes to umbrellas! And of course, she landed even more fame and money once the eight Harry Potter movies were made. She has also written many other books like the Fantastic Beasts series, and some books for adults.

Rowling got married again and had two more children. Today, she lives a happy and charmed life. She has received many awards and honors, including an OBE for services to children's literature, France's Légion d'Honneur, and the Hans Christian Andersen Award. She is worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

But she will never forget where she came from. Rowling regularly donates large amounts of money to various charities. She loves to help those less fortunate than her. Her determined and compassionate spirit keeps her humble. This is yet another reason everyone adores her.



***The Hogwarts Express from Rowling's Harry Potter Series***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Great Minds: J. K. Rowling

by Lydia Lukidis

1. Based on the information in the article, how old was J. K. Rowling when her first book in the *Harry Potter* series was published?

- a. 27                      b. 32  
c. 49                      d. 55



2. The author of the article describes J. K. Rowling's life as an example of "a true rags to riches story". What does she mean by this?

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3. Based on your knowledge of the article, where did the inspiration for J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* series come from?

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4. Read the following statements about J. K. Rowling. Determine whether they are true or false. If the statement is true, write a **T** on the line. If the statement is false, write an **F**.

\_\_\_\_\_ Rowling didn't develop an interest in storytelling until later in life.

\_\_\_\_\_ The original name of Rowling's first book was Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone.

\_\_\_\_\_ Rowling's books have sold more than 500 million copies worldwide.

\_\_\_\_\_ Rowling's first book was on the market for a long time before it gained popularity.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Great Minds: J. K. Rowling

by Lydia Lukidis

The following terms are vocabulary words from the article.  
Match the vocabulary word with its correct definition by writing  
the corresponding letter on the line.

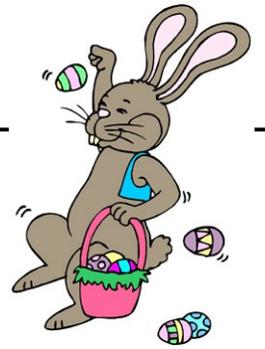


1. \_\_\_\_\_ voracious
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ turbulent
  3. \_\_\_\_\_ persevered
  4. \_\_\_\_\_ manuscript
  5. \_\_\_\_\_ royalty
  6. \_\_\_\_\_ charmed
  7. \_\_\_\_\_ donates
  8. \_\_\_\_\_ compassionate
  9. \_\_\_\_\_ humble
  10. \_\_\_\_\_ poverty
- a. gives away money or goods to a charity or other good cause
  - b. amount of money paid to an author for each book sold (or for the sale of each item related to the author's work)
  - c. the state of being extremely poor
  - d. characterized by conflict, challenges, and difficult times
  - e. having a magical quality
  - f. having a modest view of one's own self-importance
  - g. achieved success despite difficulties
  - h. having an intense interest in an activity, like reading
  - i. an author's unpublished work
  - j. having sympathy for other people



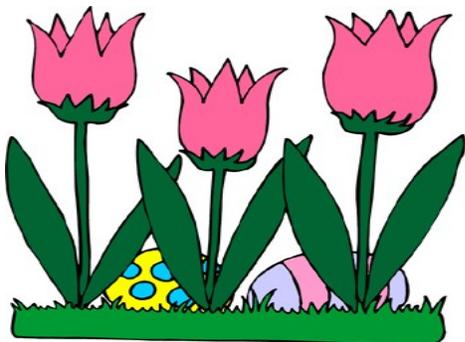
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Easter Scramble



How many of these Easter words can you unscramble?

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. aebkst _____       | 10. tacror _____      |
| 2. aduySn _____       | 11. geg edy _____     |
| 3. nubyn _____        | 12. eraEts _____      |
| 4. nuht _____         | 13. eradap _____      |
| 5. sarsg _____        | 14. hecacootl _____   |
| 6. pho _____          | 15. edihnd _____      |
| 7. yejllneab _____    | 16. trbabi _____      |
| 8. rgnpis _____       | 17. hckci _____       |
| 9. elocdro sgeg _____ | 18. rahd-iedolb _____ |



*How many words did you unscramble?*

- 1 - 5 words - Hop to it! You can find more!
- 6-10 words - You did an egg-cellent job!
- 11-15 words - You're growing bunny ears!
- 16-18 words - You win the golden egg!