

William Shakespeare

What do you already know about William Shakespeare? Take five minutes to record any information you think you know about him and his achievements.

Before Researching:

- * I know that William Shakespeare is a play writer and wrote Romeo & Juliet, he also wrote other stories. (Tragedy and comedy)
- * I know that William Shakespeare is from London
- * I know that William Shakespeare died on the same day when he was born

Use the websites below to help you answer the following questions:

LIFE

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/people/william_shakespeare

What was Shakespeare's date of birth?

Shakespeare's date of birth was on April 23rd 1564

Where was he born?

William Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon in Warwickshire

Where did he go to school, and what was it like?

King Edward VI Grammar School in Stratford was where Shakespeare went to school.

What do we know about his family?

We know that, Shakespeare's dad (John Shakespeare) was a glove maker and his mother (Mary, Arden) was the daughter of a Wilmcote, South Warwickshire land owner.

Why did he go to London?

Before Shakespeare went to London, he had a few years of " lost years". When he recovered, it was mentioned that Shakespeare is in London working in theaters.

With which theaters and companies was Shakespeare involved?

Shakespeare was involved in the Lord Chamberlain's Company and was one of the managing partners there.

Who were Shakespeare's contemporaries?

Robert Green was Shakespeare's contemporaries. Robert described Shakespeare as a "upstart crow".

When did he die and what is special about this date?

Shakespeare died on April 23rd 1616, the same day as his birthday at the age of 52.

What did he leave his wife in his will?

Shakespeare bequeathed his 'second-best bed' to his wife, even though they primarily were apart 20 years from their marriage.

GENRE

<http://www.storyboardthat.com/articles/education/english/types-of-shakespearean-plays>

How many plays did Shakespeare write?

Shakespeare wrote 38 plays and 154 sonnets (a kind of poet)

What three categories can we put his plays into?

The three categories we could put his plays into were Tragedies (10 plays), Comedies (18 plays) and historical (10 plays)

Name two plays from each category.

Tragedies : Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet, Macbeth

Comedies: As you like it, The Winter's tale, The Merchant of Venice

Historical: Henry V, King John, Richard 111, Henry VIII