Sir Walter Raleigh

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Key Facts

- Name: Walter Raleigh
- Year of Birth: 1552
- Place of birth: Hayes Barton, Devon
- He was the youngest of four brothers
- Religion: Protestant
- Studied at Oxford University
- Married Elizabeth Throckmorton
- Died in London 1618, aged 66
His Early Life

• In 1569 he served as a volunteer soldier along side his brother in the Huguenot army in France.
• He studied Law at Oriel University College Oxford before joining the Middle Temple in 1575.
• In 1579 he became an acting landlord and Mayor of Lismore in Scotland.
• He was Knighted in 1585 by Queen Elizabeth 1st and was given the title Sir Walter Raleigh, Knight Lord and Governor of Virgina.
• Between 1584 and 1589 he fought for the Queen in the Irish army.
• Shortly after this, Sir Walter Raleigh began exploring the world.
Why Was He Famous

- He was good friends with Queen Elizabeth.
- He went to war in Ireland and was in charge of the Queens Guard in 1586.
- He helped build the first colony in Roanoke, North Carolina in 1587. The colony mysteriously vanished when he returned in 1590.
- He was most famous for being an explorer and fought off the 130 ships from the Spanish Armada in 1588.
- He brought potatoes back to Britain and helped to make smoking popular in court by introducing tobacco.
- He also tried to find treasure for Queen Elizabeth by fighting other ships at sea.
- In 1595 he set sail to find El Dorado for the Queen. The island has never been found.
Why Was He Famous?

- Walter Raleigh was a poet and an author.
- Because people didn’t believe that he had been to America, he wrote a story about his journey and about what he found when he was there: *The Discovery of the Large, Rich and Beautiful Empire of Guiana*.
- Whilst in Prison he wrote a book called the History of the World for Prince Henry, Queen Anne’s son.
- Whilst he was searching for El Dorado he wrote stories about his adventure. The book became a best seller.
- Before Sir Walter Raleigh's death, he gave a long speech to show that he was innocent and not scared.
A Poem to His Son

Sir Walter Raleigh wrote a lot of famous poems. Below is one which he wrote for his son:

“Three things there be that prosper up apace
And flourish, whilst they grow asunder far,
But on a day, they meet all in one place,
And when they meet, they one another mar;
And they be these: the wood, the weed, the wag.
The wood is that which makes the gallow tree;
The weed is that which strings the hangman's bag;
The wag, my pretty knave, betokeneth thee.
Mark well, dear boy, whilst these assemble not,
Green springs the tree, hemp grows, the wag is wild,
But when they meet, it makes the timber rot,
It frets the halter, and it chokes the child.
Then bless thee, and beware, and let us pray
We part not with thee at this meeting day”
The Final Chapter

- Sir Walter Raleigh spent a lot of his life time in The Tower of London.
- When Queen Elizabeth died in 1603 King James the 1\textsuperscript{st} took the throne.
- King James did not trust Sir Walter Raleigh because he thought he was not loyal.
- The King ordered him to go and find treasure.
- During his journey he became very ill and sent his crew to go and find treasure instead.
- Sir Walter Raleigh was betrayed by the King as he told the Spanish of Sir Walters plans and they attacked him.
- Sir Walter Raleigh’s son Wat was killed alongside many other sailors.
- He knew that he would face death by the King when he returned to England.
- On October 29\textsuperscript{th} 1608, the axe came down on his neck.
Thank You For Listening
My Trip to Speke Hall
My Trip to Speke Hall
Carpenter’s marks

Look up at the wall; can you spot the Roman numerals that are carved into the wood? These are instructions telling the house builders which panels went together. It’s a bit like Tudor flat-pack!
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