

DIARY of..

Jeff Kinney!

An Author Study



Research by: Emily Brown

About the Author

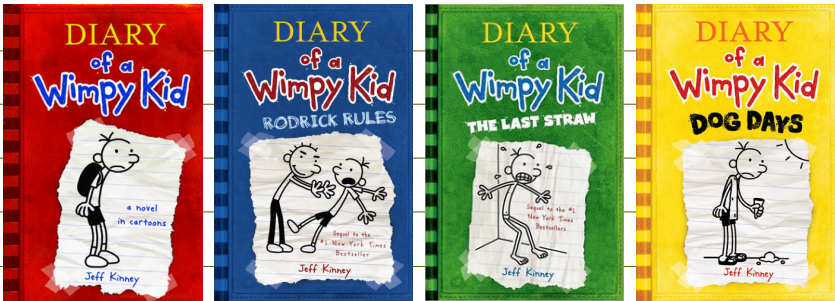
Jeff Kinney was born in Maryland in 1971. He went to the University of Maryland in the 90's and while attending college, he actually ran a comic strip! It was called "Igdooof" and it ran in the campus newspaper. It was during this time of Jeff's life that he decided that he wanted to be a cartoonist.

However, Jeff's numerous attempts to break out into the cartooning world proved unsuccessful. So, instead he started writing down ideas for "Diary for a Wimpy Kid." In 2004, Jeff ended up publishing "Diary for a Wimpy Kid" online on Funbraiin.com. Three years later, he signed a multi-book deal to turn the online daily comic strip into a book series!

In addition to creating the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series, Jeff works as a virtual world designer and he also created Poptropica.com where kids can go online and explore different online books and comics. He is married with two sons and currently resides in Massachusetts.

The "Wimpy Kid" Series

Jeff has written 4 books for this New York Times Bestseller series. The series is based on Jeff's life as a child and the funny things that happened to him while he was growing up. The main goal for Jeff when he wrote these books was to create something that was funny! This series was also turned into a Twentieth Century Fox motion picture!



Jeff is currently putting the finishing touches on the final book of this series, The Ugly Truth. This book is set to be released on November 9, 2011.

Websites!

The Diary of a Wimpy Kid series has given Jeff lots of opportunities to create fun and educational websites for children.

Funbrain.com

This was the original website where Jeff was able to publish his Wimpy Kid series (before he got print published.) Funbrain.com is a sister site to

[Poptropica.com](#), the website created by Jeff, as mentioned earlier. Kids can play games to explore different books and comics that are both timeless and contemporary.

WimpyKid.com

This is the website where I collected most of my information about Jeff. Included on this site is an "About the Author" section, a personal interview with Jeff, and information about his books.

My Thoughts

I read Jeff's entire series of Wimpy Kid books. I loved them. They are easy and fun to read and are fit for a variety of ages. Kids could clearly easily relate to these books and the main character, Greg. He experiences some of the every day situations that most children experience both in school and out. Jeff has a great way of making these seemingly normal events hilarious — especially with the use of his drawings.

One thing that I noticed was that Jeff was able to keep Greg very recognizable through all of his books. Greg had the same attitude and humor throughout each book. I also am so impressed how real the situations that Greg got into were; many times, I felt as if I were back in my own childhood! The situations that Greg found himself in are situations that everyone goes through, getting an ugly sweater for Christmas, having a whiney sibling, hating school...all of these things are timeless and can be enjoyed for many generations to come.