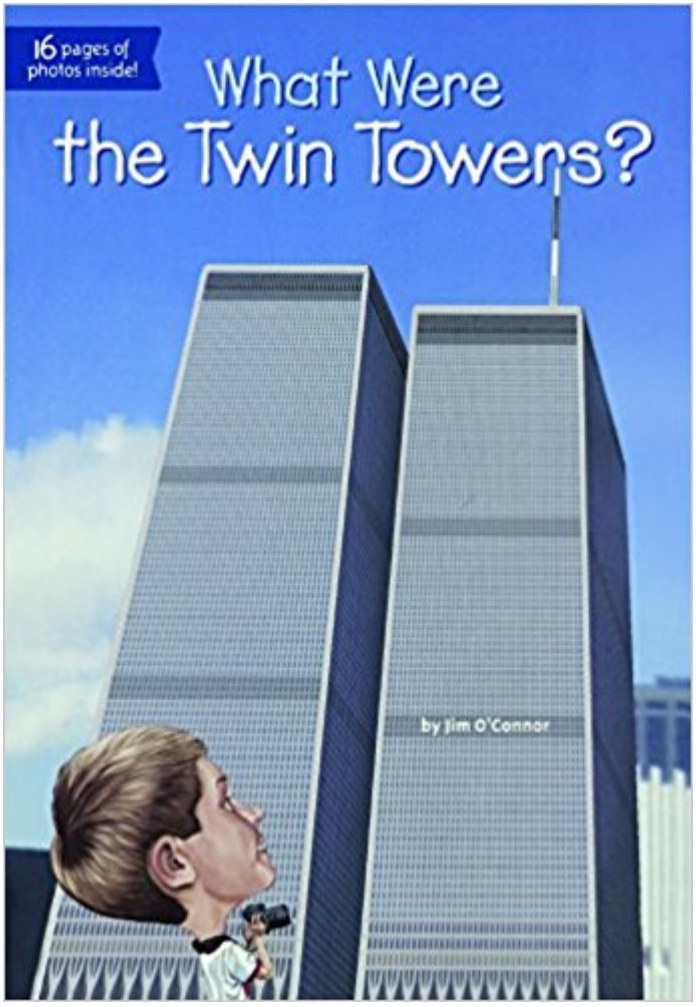
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What Were The Twin Towers? (Turtleback School & Library Binding Edition) (What Was...?)



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Synopsis

FOR USE IN SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES ONLY. Discover the true story of the Twin Towers--how they came to be the tallest buildings in the world and why they were destroyed. When the Twin Towers were built in 1973, they were billed as an architectural wonder. At 1,368 feet, they clocked in as the tallest buildings in the world and changed the New York City skyline dramatically. Offices and corporations moved into the towers--also known as the World Trade Center--and the buildings were seen as the economic hub of the world. But on September 11, 2001, a terrorist attack toppled the towers and changed our nation forever. Discover the whole story of the Twin Towers--from their ambitious construction to their tragic end.

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Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Jim O'Connor is the author of "What Was Pompeii?," "What Was the Battle of Gettysburg?," and "Who Is Bob Dylan?"

What Were the Twin Towers? Ã Â It was a perfect end-of-summer morning in New York City. The sky was a clear, rich blue and there were no clouds. Ã Â At the tip of Manhattan, by 8:20 a.m.,

people were streaming in from subways and from Staten Island ferryboats. The World Trade CenterÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Twin Towers gleamed in the sunlight. The North Tower and the South Tower. Some office workers lingered in the tree-lined plaza at the base of the buildings. Ã Â Many people were already upstairs at their desks starting work. At the famous Windows on the World restaurant, several companies were hosting business breakfasts. The restaurant was in the North Tower, on the 106th and 107th floors. The view was spectacular that morning. Diners could see more than fifty miles in any direction. Ã Â It was just another normal morning. Then at 8:46, everything changed. People on the street heard a roar. They looked up to see a jet airplane overhead. It was flying low, dangerously low. And it was heading straight toward the North Tower. In a matter of seconds, it slammed into floors ninety-three through ninety-nine. Ã Â This was the first blow of a terrible attack on the United States of America. In the next seventy-seven minutes, a second plane hit the South Tower. A third plane flew into the Pentagon building just outside of Washington, DC. A fourth plane crashed in central Pennsylvania. Everyone in all four planes was killed, including the nineteen men who had hijacked the flights and carried out the attacks. Ã Â By 10:28 that morning, both towers had collapsed, killing 2,606 innocent people. Another 125 died at the Pentagon. In all, 2,977 died on September 11, 2001, counting the passengers and crew on all four planes. Ã Â In the months and years that followed, there would be more victims. Many were rescue workersÃ¢â ¬â •police officers and firefightersÃ¢â ¬â •as well as construction workers who came to clean up the site. They became sick from breathing the polluted air while working at Ground Zero. That became the name for the area where the Twin Towers had once stood. Ã Â Why were the Twin Towers targeted? Who was behind the attack? And how did that terrible day change the United States? Ã Â Ã Â Ã Â Chapter 1:Ã Â Money, Money, MoneyÃ Â Ã Â More than any other city in the United States, New York has always been a center of business. In America in the 1600s and 1700s, many colonies were founded by groups seeking religious freedom. But not New York. It began as a Dutch trading post called New Amsterdam. Its purpose was to make money. Ã Â The Dutch took advantage of the large natural harbor that stayed ice-free all winter. This meant that ships with cargo could come and go all year. And the Hudson River, to the west of New Amsterdam, offered a route to fur trading posts farther inland. Ã Â The British forced the Dutch out of New Amsterdam in 1664 and renamed it New York. They stayed over a hundred years, until the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783. After that, New York City became the trading center of a new, young country: the United States of America. Ã Â Manhattan, where New York City began, is an island. Because of that, over time six bridges as well as four tunnelsÃ¢â ¬â •two under the East River and two under the HudsonÃ¢â ¬â •were constructed to connect Manhattan to mainland

areas. Many of these transportation routes are overseen by an agency called the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey. It has control over the port, covering a twenty-five-mile circle, with the Statue of Liberty at the center. Tolls from bridges and tunnels provide the money for more new projects. In the middle of the twentieth century, the Port Authority headed the biggest building project in New YorkÃ¢â ¬â„¢s historyÃ¢â ¬â •the construction of two skyscrapers, each 110 stories. They were the tallest buildings on the planetÃ¢â ¬â •at least for a while. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Very factual presentation of information. The illustrious history of these New York landmarks, whose contemporary legacy is so complicated and tragic, is dealt with by a deft hand, providing the necessary information for my rather astute nine year old while not scaring him. This tome, read independently but discussed, allowed for fruitful conversation and afforded me the opportunity to hear insight and fears I wasn't aware my son had. Highly recommend.

These are great books. All of the Who Was books are excellent for young readers. My daughter gets very excited when she can teach us a little something about history and she seems to truly find things interesting. I think this is a great read for grades 3 and 4

Bought this for our son before we visited NYC. It was good for him to have a touching background written for children.

My son started this series last year when he was in third grade, he still loves it.

I absolutely love this series of books. A must have for any homeschool library.

A wonderful, age-appropriate way to teach about September 11 to my 5th graders and honor the memory of that day.

This particular book is one of the best in the "What Was?" series.

great book for kids to read and learn about Twin towers

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