

around the world in 80 days for kids

Around the World in 80 Days for Kids is a classic adventure story written by French author Jules Verne in 1872. It tells the thrilling tale of Phileas Fogg, a mysterious and punctual English gentleman who embarks on a daring journey to prove that it is possible to travel around the globe in just 80 days. This exciting novel has captivated readers of all ages for generations, and its themes of adventure, determination, and exploration make it an excellent choice for young readers. In this article, we will explore the story, its characters, the places visited, and the valuable lessons it teaches.

The Plot Summary

Phileas Fogg is a member of the Reform Club in London, known for his precise nature and commitment to punctuality. One day, during a discussion about the advancements in transportation, a fellow club member challenges Fogg to travel around the world in 80 days. Intrigued by the dare, Fogg decides to take on the challenge, betting half of his fortune that he can complete the journey within the time limit.

Accompanied by his loyal French servant, Passepartout, Fogg sets off on his adventure, facing numerous obstacles and unexpected events along the way. The journey takes them across various countries and cultures, showcasing the diversity of the world. They travel by train, ship, and even an elephant, making their way through cities like Paris, India, and San Francisco.

Key Events in the Story

1. **The Bet:** The story begins with Fogg making a bet with his Reform Club friends that he can travel around the world in 80 days.
2. **Departure:** Fogg and Passepartout leave London by train, heading to Dover to catch a ship to France.
3. **Adventures in India:** They encounter a beautiful woman, Aouda, who is in danger and decides to help her.
4. **The Chase:** Inspector Fix, a detective, mistakenly believes Fogg is a thief and tries to arrest him throughout the journey.
5. **Time Trials:** Fogg and Passepartout face numerous challenges, including missed connections and natural disasters, as they race against time.
6. **The Return:** The conclusion of their journey leaves Fogg in a race against the clock to return to London in time to win his bet.

The Characters

The story features several key characters who contribute to the adventure and the unfolding drama. Here are the main characters:

Phileas Fogg

- A meticulous and wealthy Englishman who values punctuality above all.
- He is determined, resourceful, and somewhat reserved, which makes him a unique protagonist.

Passepartout

- Fogg's loyal French servant, who is resourceful and helps navigate various challenges.
- He adds humor to the story with his lively personality and clever ideas.

Aouda

- A beautiful Indian woman whom Fogg and Passepartout rescue.
- She becomes an important part of their journey and eventually falls in love with Fogg.

Inspector Fix

- A detective who believes Fogg is a criminal and tries to capture him throughout the journey.
- His character adds tension and excitement to the story as he pursues Fogg.

The Places Visited

One of the most exciting aspects of *Around the World in 80 Days* is the various destinations that Fogg and Passepartout visit. Each location offers a glimpse into different cultures, landscapes, and adventures. Here are some of the notable places they travel to:

1. London, England: The starting point of their journey, where Fogg makes his bet.
2. Paris, France: A bustling city where they briefly stop to catch a train.
3. Suez, Egypt: The gateway to the East, where they encounter new challenges.
4. India: Fogg and Passepartout save Aouda from a dangerous situation.
5. Hong Kong: A vibrant city where they face additional obstacles.
6. San Francisco, USA: The duo experiences the excitement of the Wild West.
7. New York City, USA: They catch a ship back to England from this famous city.

The Themes

Around the World in 80 Days contains various themes that are valuable for readers of all ages. Here are some important themes to consider:

Adventure and Exploration

- The story highlights the thrill of adventure and the excitement of exploring new places.
- It encourages readers to embrace curiosity and seek out new experiences.

Determination and Resilience

- Fogg's unwavering commitment to completing his journey despite numerous challenges demonstrates resilience.
- The story teaches that perseverance and determination can help overcome obstacles.

Cultural Diversity

- As Fogg and Passepartout travel, they encounter different cultures, traditions, and people.
- This theme promotes understanding and appreciation of diversity in the world.

Time and Punctuality

- Fogg's obsession with time reflects the importance of being organized and punctual.
- The story emphasizes how time can be both a constraint and a motivator.

The Lessons Learned

Reading Around the World in 80 Days can provide valuable lessons for kids. Here are some of the key takeaways:

1. Embrace Challenges: Taking on challenges can lead to personal growth and new experiences.
2. Be Open to New Cultures: Learning about different cultures enriches our understanding of the world.
3. Value Relationships: The bond between Fogg, Passepartout, and Aouda shows the importance of friendship and loyalty.
4. Stay Determined: Even when faced with setbacks, determination can lead to success.
5. Time Management: Learning to manage time effectively is a crucial skill for achieving goals.

Fun Facts About the Book

Here are some fun facts that kids might enjoy about *Around the World in 80 Days*:

- Inspiration: Jules Verne was inspired to write the book after learning about the advancements in transportation during his time.
- Adaptations: The novel has been adapted into various movies, television shows, and even stage performances.
- Travel Innovations: The story features many innovative modes of transportation that were groundbreaking during the 19th century, such as trains and steamships.
- Global Impact: The book has inspired many travelers to embark on their own adventures around the world.

Activities for Kids

To make the story even more engaging, here are some fun activities kids can do while reading *Around the World in 80 Days*:

1. Create a Travel Journal: Encourage kids to write about their own adventures, real or imagined, just like Phileas Fogg.
2. Make a World Map: Have them create a map of Fogg's journey, marking the countries he visited.
3. Dress Up: Kids can dress up as Phileas Fogg, Passepartout, or Aouda and act out scenes from the story.
4. Explore Cultures: Research the different cultures Fogg encounters and try out a recipe or craft from one of those countries.
5. Time Capsule: Discuss what items they would put in a time capsule to represent their own life and experiences.

Conclusion

Around the World in 80 Days for Kids is not just an exciting adventure story; it is a treasure trove of life lessons, cultural insights, and the spirit of exploration. With memorable characters and thrilling escapades, this classic novel continues to inspire young readers to dream big, embrace challenges, and appreciate the diverse world around them. Whether you are reading it for the first time or revisiting it, the journey of Phileas Fogg and his companions is sure to captivate and ignite your imagination. So, pack your bags, grab a map, and get ready for an adventure of your own!

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'Around the World in 80 Days' about?

It's a story about a man named Phileas Fogg who makes a bet that he can travel around the world in just 80 days!

Who wrote 'Around the World in 80 Days'?

The book was written by Jules Verne, a famous French author known for his adventure stories.

What modes of transportation does Phileas Fogg use on his journey?

Phileas Fogg travels by train, ship, and even an elephant during his adventure around the world.

What challenge does Phileas Fogg face while traveling?

He faces several challenges, including delays, storms, and even being pursued by a detective who thinks he is a thief.

Why is Phileas Fogg traveling around the world?

He is trying to win a bet made with his friends at the Reform Club, where he claims he can complete the journey in 80 days.

Who is Passepartout in the story?

Passepartout is Phileas Fogg's loyal French servant who accompanies him on the journey and helps him overcome obstacles.

What lesson can kids learn from 'Around the World in 80 Days'?

Kids can learn about determination, the importance of planning, and the value of friendship through Phileas Fogg's adventurous journey.

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