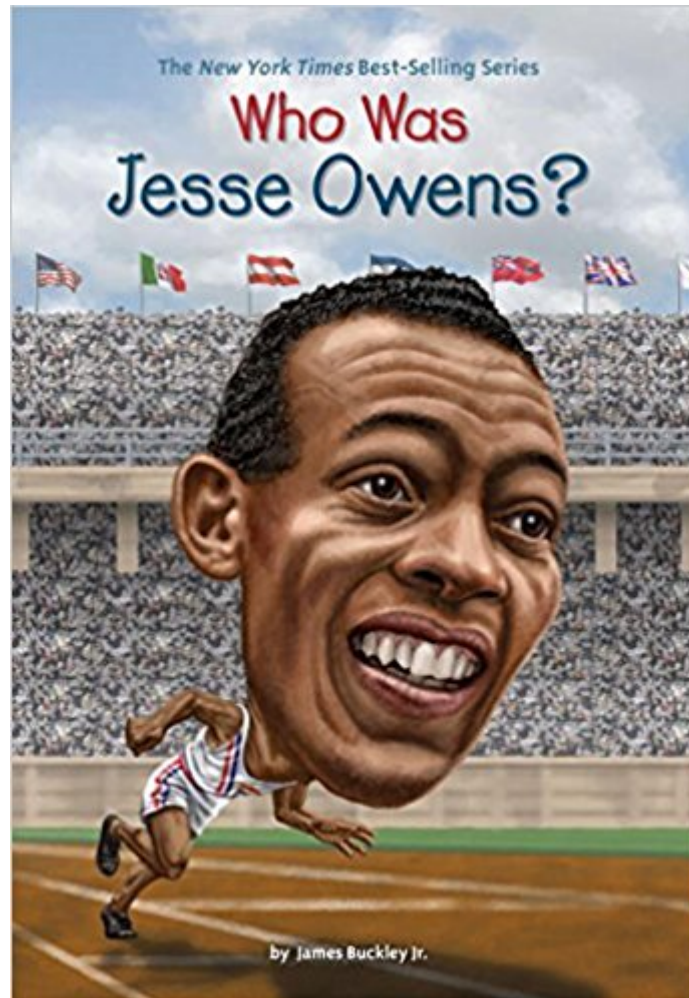




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Who Was Jesse Owens?



Synopsis

At the 1936 Berlin Summer Olympics, track and field star Jesse Owens ran himself straight into international glory by winning four gold medals. But the life of Jesse Owens is much more than a sports story. Born in rural Alabama under the oppressive Jim Crow laws, Owens's family suffered many hardships. As a boy he worked several jobs like delivering groceries and working in a shoe repair shop to make ends meet. But Owens defied the odds to become a sensational student athlete, eventually running track for Ohio State. He was chosen to compete in the Summer Olympics in Nazi Germany where Adolf Hitler was promoting the idea of "Aryan superiority." Owens's winning streak at the games humiliated Hitler and crushed the myth of racial supremacy once and for all.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0880 (What's this?)

Series: Who Was?

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Grosset & Dunlap; Dgs edition (August 11, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0448483076

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Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.3 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 19 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #29,372 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Olympics #6 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Track & Field #60 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

James Buckley, Jr. has written more than 50 books for kids, including Who Was Ernest Shackleton?

Who Was Jesse Owens? In rural Alabama, Jesse Owens sprinted across farmland and ran along dirt roads. He ran to the fields where he picked one hundred pounds of cotton a day. He ran to the

orchards where he and his large family picked fruit from the trees. He ran with friends, playing games when they were not working alongside their parents. Jesse ran because it made him feel free. "I always loved running," he later said. "It was something you could do by yourself and under your own power. You could go in any direction, fast or slow as you wanted, fighting the wind if you felt like it, seeking out new sights just on the strength of your feet." "Jesse would run and play just like everyone else," his cousin Mattie Taylor said of those days of playing in Alabama. "But you could never catch him."

My son loves these books and they are great for school book reports. He dressed up as Jesse Owens and presented. This is one of his favorite series of books and he has read over ten- and he is a non reader!

My Kindergarten daughter had to do a research project for black history month. She and I read this book together. It is written more for 2nd-4th grade level I would say in terms of reading level, but it worked well for us and she understood the language. We both learned a lot and enjoyed the book. There are lots of interesting facts that can be used in reports. Perfect for a book report.

My son loved this book. Great!

Love this series!

These stories are a great way to find out about the lives of people who changed the world.

I got it in a timely manner. The book was what the description said it was. I am very pleased

This is a great series for your kids to learn about historical figures. Highly recommended by my son's teacher and used in the classroom and for reports.

My 10 year old daughter liked the book. It introduced her to the challenges Jesse Owens faced.

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