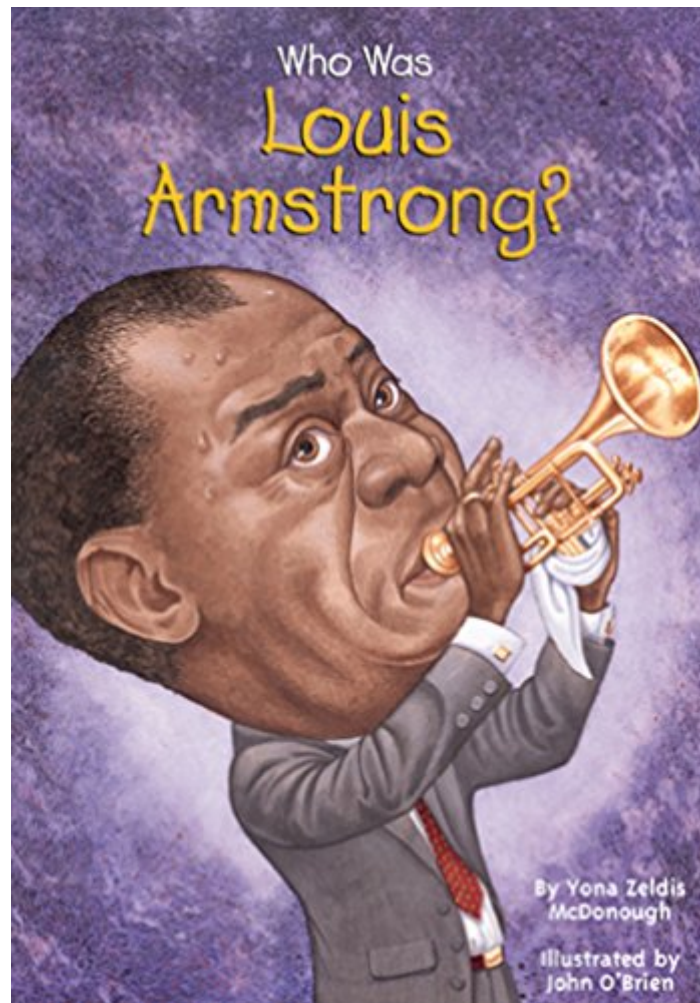


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# Who Was Louis Armstrong? (Who Was...?)



## Synopsis

If not for a stint in reform school, young Louis Armstrong might never have become a musician. It was a teacher at the Colored Waifs' Home who gave him a cornet, promoted him to band leader, and saw talent in the tough kid from the even tougher New Orleans neighborhood called Storyville. But it was Louis Armstrong's own passion and genius that pushed jazz into new and exciting realms with his amazing, improvisational trumpet playing. His seventy-year life spanned a critical time in American music as well as black history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This was a really well written biography, written in a 'storybook' format to hold the attention of the reader instead of just facts on a page. Started with his childhood and included events going on during Mr Armstrong's life. So many times authors leave that out so we as readers often forget these folks didn't live in 'our time' so adding in events such as World Wars and things help places them in their timeframe and the struggles they had to endure. And with Mr Armstrong being a black man he even had to fight the segregation and that was written very well in this book! And in a way that the children who are reading-listening could understand what segregation was. Also in this book

from time to time there are pages where the text is different and the author gives a half page to page 'History' lesson on something happening within the story. Such as she explains WWI and Jim Crow laws, the great migration, difference between big bands vs jazz bands etc. At the end she gives a time line of Mr Armstrong's life and on the next page across from it a timeline of events of the world so you can compare in a timeline. She also (which I LOVED) at the end she included a Bibliography. This book is very nice to sit and read if you have an interest in learning about Louis Armstrong. But it's a wonderful book for students that may be needing to write a paper on anything from the struggle of African Americans during this time frame, to the world of Jazz, and even may find what you are looking for as far as information about the Colored Waif's Home for Boys. So much wonderful information in this book and presented in a pleasant wonderful way! I have added this book to my 'to buy' for my own home library and have went in (because of this book) and am looking for Mr Armstrong's books he wrote about himself. Very well done Ms McDonough! Very well done

Who Was Louis Armstrong has been my 5th grade daughter's favorite book from the Who was series so far. She has been reading these books since she was in 2nd grade. They are fairly easy for her now - she usually knocks them out in less than an hour. I don't think that is a bad thing though. She retains so much information from them, and has become quite a "history buff" after reading probably 20 or more of these biographies. She usually wants to find out once she is done reading. I am delighted to see her enjoying learning about history. A new one is usually always on her wish list for birthdays and Christmas.

While my son, age 10 and in fifth grade, is a good reader, he doesn't necessarily pick up books to read unless he has to do a book report. This was extremely easy for him to polish off although the content was excellent. His teacher allowed the book when he showed what the age range was supposed to be. This needs to be for younger readers. Louis Armstrong is worthy of a more advanced book for the 10-12 range. Our problem was it was either this or a 300-500 tome!

I discovered this series when looking for books for a 3rd grade teacher who teaches informational text in a urban elementary school. The students loved this series, especially the girls. Very well received by the teacher and students.

This was a great book. I am doing a book report on a bibliography and this book gave me perfect

information. I learned a lot about Louis Armstrong. You are a great writer. I hope to have published books of my own someday. Wish me luck on my report.

I got this book for my daughter and though it is a great book, she could not fully understand it. It was a lot of dates to remember through his life. I would recommend getting this book for children ages 10-12. Hope this helped!!

Great for third to fourth grade students. A well written biography with interesting details that kids can relate to. Illustrations rather than photos, but who cares with all of the easy links to images on the Net these days. Recommended for biography studies and kids interested in music or modern American history.

love the book. I purchased it for a child who loves to read. they found the book to be fun and informative and thoroughly enjoyed it. I myself did not read it so i can not comment on the content.

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