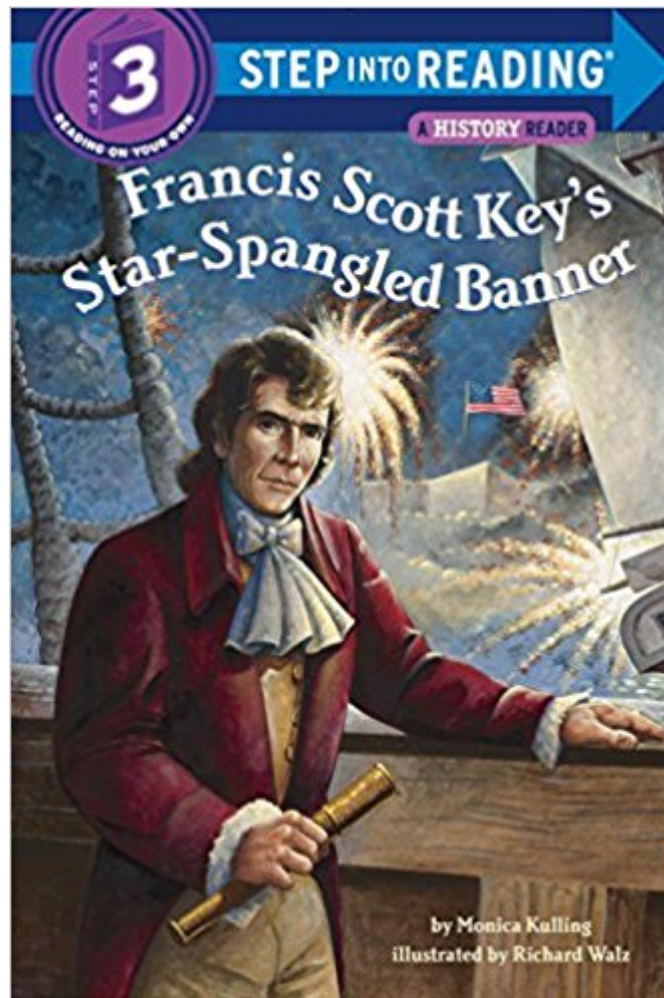




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Francis Scott Key's Star-Spangled Banner (Step Into Reading)



Synopsis

Francis Scott Key was a very busy man. He and his wife had 11 children. He was a lawyer and many people came to him for advice. But whenever he had a moment, he would jot down a line of poetry. He loved writing poems. When the War of 1812 broke out, Francis became even busier. He was well-respected and often called upon to help keep the peace as the war between the United States and England raged on. One fateful night Francis and his friend helped talk the British Navy into releasing a prisoner of war. But they couldn't return home just yet because the Battle of Fort McHenry was starting! If the British captured the fort, America might very well lose its independence. Francis and his friends could only sit on a boat and observe the battle. For 25 hours they watched in awe. What Francis saw inspired him to write a poem that would become America's national anthem! This Step 3 reader is perfect for children who are ready to read independently.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 440L (What's this?)

Series: Step into Reading

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers (January 24, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375867252

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Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (22 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #54,758 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1800s #43 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > Colonial & Revolutionary #132 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Historical

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

The War of 1812 is one of my favorite studies. If the American Revolution was the war that gave birth to the idea of the United States, then the War of 1812 saw the upstart country grow up. Considered the second War of Independence, it established the destiny of the continent. It

threatened the very existence of Canada. It firmly established the ideas that led to the Manifest Destiny, and the government-sanctioned annihilation of native populations. Early Americans were so divided about the war effort, many threaten succession, fifty years before the Civil War. And yet, the War is largely forgotten, except for a few names of battles like the Battle of New Orleans, where the pirate Jean Lafitte became a hero, and the Battle of Chesapeake Bay, where the iconic USS Constitution -- Old Ironsides -- bested the British; and, a few legends like First Lady Dolley Madison, saving many of the treasured items from the presidential mansion during the burning of Washington D.C., and the mythic Shawnee leader Tecumseh, often compared to George Washington in his ideas. And of course, the song, The Star-Spangled Banner. In her recent book, Francis Scott Key's Star-Spangled Banner, Monica Kulling retells the story of this fabled song in the context of these complex historical times. She introduces young readers to the personhood of Francis Scott Key, giving the character a sense of presence that goes beyond the dry collection of dates and times. "Francis Scott Key loved writing poems," she begins. "He wrote them on horseback. He wrote them late at night. Once Francis even wrote a poem after a battle. It became America's national anthem.

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