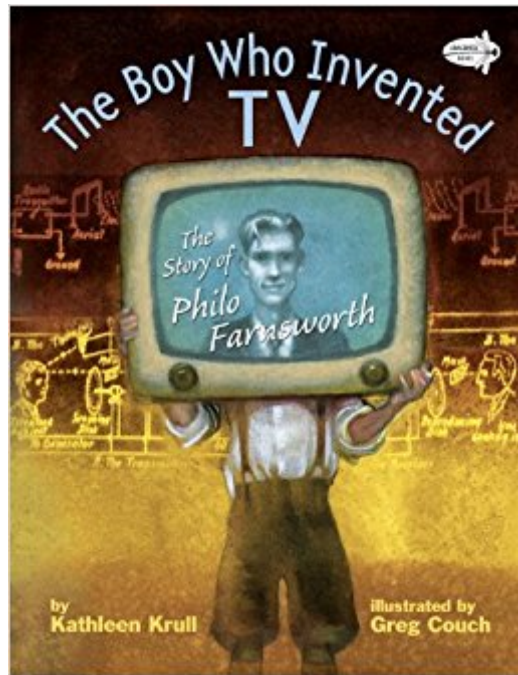




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The Boy Who Invented TV: The Story Of Philo Farnsworth



Synopsis

An inspiring true story of a boy genius. Plowing a potato field in 1920, a 14-year-old farm boy from Idaho saw in the parallel rows of overturned earth a way to make pictures fly through the air. • This boy was not a magician; he was a scientific genius and just eight years later he made his brainstorm in the potato field a reality by transmitting the world's first television image. This fascinating picture-book biography of Philo Farnsworth covers his early interest in machines and electricity, leading up to how he put it all together in one of the greatest inventions of the 20th century. The author's afterword discusses the lawsuit Farnsworth waged and won against RCA when his high school science teacher testified that Philo's invention of television was years before RCA's.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 860L (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Dragonfly Books; 1 edition (February 11, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385755570

ISBN-13: 978-0385755573

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.1 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #68,786 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Electricity & Electronics #31 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Inventions & Inventors #86 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Science & Technology

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 2-5 Endpapers featuring a photo collage of generations of televisions from the earliest oval-screened version to modern flat screens set the book's context. Then, readers are asked to imagine life when there was no TV, radio was only for the military, news was hard to come by, and people studied the Sears, Roebuck catalog to make their purchases. Juxtaposing the staid images of farm life with fanciful ones depicting Farnsworth's broadening vision, Couch draws,

paints, and digitally enhances the story. To show the boy learning about inventors as he studies the stars, Thomas Edison and Alexander Graham Bell appear among the constellations like ancient Greek heroes. While plowing a field, Farnsworth developed the idea for how television could work, inspired by those parallel furrows as a format to transmit an electronic signal. It is the inventor's passion and genius that come through in this picture-book biography that follows him from the three-year-old who drew schematics of train engines, to the teen who automated the clothes washer so he would have more time to read, to the young man who celebrated his invention. Krull's focus is on the boy genius becoming an inventor like his heroes, and only in a note does she mention his struggles with RCA and his bitterness later in life. The facts aren't new, but with Krull building the story and Couch's exceptional images, it's one to inspire young audiences with the vast possibilities that imagination and diligence can accomplish.â "Janet S. Thompson, Chicago Public Library END --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Starred Review, School Library Journal, September 2009:"One to inspire young audiences with the vast possibilities that imagination and diligence can accomplish."The New York Times Book Review, December 20, 2009:"Beautiful and beautifully told, the book tracks like the sort of graphic novel that breaks your heart, with its implied passage of time and slipping away of early dreams."

Have you ever wondered who invented television? Would you be surprised that a 14-year-old boy got the idea as he was plowing the fields on the family farm in Idaho? Philo T. Farnsworth later took his idea of how to send pictures through the air and turned it into television. This book inspires kids to take their ideas to fruition and not to give up even in the face of discouragement.

Kids often wonder where and when certain constants in our lives were invented. I think this story does a great job telling about Farnsworth. I will be using it (with other books) to teach a unit on inventions and innovations.

My son needed this for class and did very well on his project and quiz

Great book for children. Inspiring story.

A young boy in Utah working as a farmer dreams of a miraculous invention and develops the idea as a very young man. RCA takes the credit and presents it at the 1936 World Fair. Wonderful

children's biography and one that people will love. I'd never heard of Philo Farnsworth before. A best kept secret.

She did a great job on this book!

My kids loved it, very informative and inspiring, my son was very moved by the book. I recommend it for your summer reading list.

I like books with history in it. Its a good book for children to read that also gives them some history of where and how TV was invented

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