

Orientation

Ensure that you have read about using the plan in the Program Guide.

Book summary

Read the following summary to the student.

This biography tells the story of Major Taylor, an African-American cyclist who was determined to be the fastest bicycle racer in the world. At the turn of the 20th century, hardship and prejudice made this dream a challenge.

Introduction

Foster interest and activate the student's background knowledge. Be concise – focus on motivating and involving the student. Encourage prediction by using the text and illustrations on the cover of the book. Discuss new vocabulary and remind the student to use the glossary (when applicable). Also remind the student to ask him/herself questions before, during and after the reading.

Discuss the features of biography, including the story of a person's life, events sequenced in time, an author's interpretation of events, and a combination of fact and opinion.

Ask the student what kind of people might have tried to ruin Major Taylor's dream and why. Explain that Major Taylor was a high-achieving cyclist but that he had to overcome many obstacles. Encourage the student to think about the obstacles and achievements as they read.

Conferencing

Check how well the student reads

When you are conferencing, the student reads all or part of the book to you. Then:

- praise, pause, and prompt appropriately;
- check for accuracy (by counting mistakes) and fluency;
- check for understanding by using one or more of the following methods:
 - asking the comprehension questions provided and any others that seem necessary;
 - asking the student to retell the story in their own words;
 - asking questions about and discussing aspects of the story, such as the theme, plot, main ideas, sequence and characters;
 - encouraging the student to confirm the predictions they made during the orientation.

Decide what the student does next

Next recommend that the student:

- practices some more on the same book, with or without the audio;
- completes one of the activities provided that is related to the book;
- practices with another book from the same level; or
- is assessed for promotion to the next level.

Comprehension questions

1. What were Major Taylor's greatest achievements?
2. What challenges did he have to overcome?
3. How are time and place important to the challenges and achievements in Taylor's life?
4. Why do you think life after racing proved so difficult for Major Taylor?
5. If Major Taylor were living now, how might his story be different?

Answers to the Comprehension questions

1. Accept any of the following: beating the one-mile record; winning a 142-hour event; holding seven world records; winning the one- and two-mile world championship races; winning 40 races overseas.
2. Accept any of the following: he came from a poor family; unfair treatment because he was African-American.
3. Accept any of the following: bicycle racing was popular then; there weren't many successful black athletes; racial prejudice was common.
4. Answers will vary but may include: he wasn't a good businessman; his autobiography didn't make money because automobile racing had become popular.
5. Answers will vary.

Supporting English Language Learners

The following are suggestions for optional lessons to take with your English language learners. See the overview chart in the Program Guide for a summary of the text features of this book.

Purpose

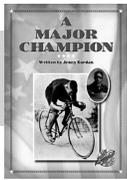
Applying knowledge of prefixes to gain meaning from texts

Introduce the concept and practice

Understanding the relationship between root words and prefixes will help the student's comprehension and spelling.

Ask the student to find words in the text that begin with "dis" and list them on the board. The list may include "disagreed," "dismounts," and "discouraged." Together, break each word into the root word and prefix, then think about its meaning; for example, disagreed = dis + agreed = did not agree. ("dis-" means "not" or "to do the opposite.") Repeat this exercise with "auto-". Encourage the student to find other words that begin with these prefixes and to use prefixes in their own writing.





Name: **Date:**

Introduction: This biography tells the story of Major Taylor, an African-American cyclist who was determined to be the fastest bicycle racer in the world. At the turn of the 20th century, hardship and prejudice made this dream a challenge.

Errors
M S

An Accidental Start Bicycle racing began in 1878, the year that Marshall Taylor was born to an African-American family in Indiana. He became one of _____ greatest cyclists in US _____ and one of the United States' _____ international star athletes. Taylor's _____ worked as a _____ for a white businessman, _____ Taylor was friends with _____ businessman's son. The man _____ Taylor a bicycle so _____ boys could ride together. _____ the bicycle needed to _____ repaired, Marshall took it _____ a store called Hay _____ Willits. One of the _____, Tom Hay, noticed Marshall _____ stunts on his bicycle _____ gave him a job _____ outside the store to _____ customers. People started _____ Marshall "Major" because of _____ precision of his mounts _____ dismounts and his military-style _____. He was known by _____ nickname for the rest _____ his life. In 1892, Hay _____ Willits sponsored a 10-mile (16-kilometer) bicycle race.

Accuracy Chart (Exact word replacement only)

Words Entered	Score	Level
More than 11 correct		Independent
10 or 11 correct		Instructional
Fewer than 10 correct		Frustration

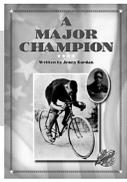
Errors

M = Meaning (makes sense) ____ **S** = Syntax (sounds right) ____

Heard Seen Unseen

Comments:





Bicycle racing began in 1878, the year that Marshall Taylor was born to an African-American family in Indiana. Taylor’s father worked for a businessman who bought Taylor a bicycle so that Taylor could ride with his son. When the bicycle needed to be repaired, Marshall took it to a store called Hay and Willits.

One of the owners of the store, Tom Hay, gave Marshall a job doing stunts outside the store to attract customers. People started calling Marshall “Major” because of the precision of his mounts and dismounts and his military-style uniform. He was known by this nickname for the rest of his life. In 1892, Hay and Willits sponsored a bicycle race.

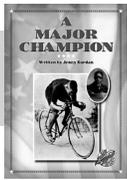
Tom Hay gave Major a bicycle to enter the race. Major had no experience racing, but he not only finished – he won the race! Major later trained with Louis Munger who was a bicycle manufacturer and had been a star cyclist. Marshall used Munger’s machinery to modify his bike.

He moved the handlebars farther forward. This meant he could lean lower, and being more streamlined, he could move faster. In 1896, 17-year-old Major beat the track record for the mile, and then turned professional. A man named Billy Brady decided to manage Taylor.

Under Billy Brady’s management, Taylor earned a lot of money. Taylor was banned from many races because he was black. He was threatened or ignored by other riders who sometimes refused to race against him. Off the track, Major was often refused entry to hotels and restaurants.

Despite all this, in 1898, he held seven world records. In 1902, when Major was 24 years old, he was possibly the best-paid athlete in the United States. He retired from racing in 1910, was unsuccessful in business, and died in 1932. He was buried in an unmarked grave, but in 1948, was reburied with a tombstone – a final tribute for a champion.





Name: **Date:**

Words can be found in these directions:



The letter in each square can only be used in one word.

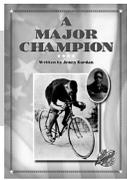
p	r	o	f	e	s	s	i	o	n	a	l	a	s	d	u
c	h	a	m	p	i	o	n	s	h	i	p	n	o	e	d
e	t	o	g	e	t	h	e	r	b	e	g	u	n	t	i
x	m	t	o	w	a	r	d	s	p	o	r	t	s	e	s
p	a	b	f	w	s	o	m	e	t	i	m	e	s	r	t
e	n	o	i	o	i	s	f	a	c	h	t	e	b	m	a
r	a	u	n	r	m	c	t	a	t	a	i	o	o	i	n
i	g	g	d	l	p	s	o	a	m	t	r	m	o	n	c
e	e	h	b	d	o	e	m	m	r	i	r	e	k	e	e
n	m	t	e	a	r	v	o	a	p	t	l	a	e	d	b
c	e	k	c	l	t	e	r	o	n	e	e	y	c	r	e
e	n	n	a	w	a	n	e	r	n	d	t	d	o	t	c
h	t	o	u	a	n	n	e	a	r	l	y	i	p	f	o
e	b	w	s	y	t	b	i	c	y	c	l	e	t	d	m
c	y	n	e	s	j	b	e	h	a	v	i	o	r	o	e
i	n	t	e	r	n	a	t	i	o	n	a	l	e	i	r

Words to find:

- | | | | | |
|----------|--------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|
| always | bicycle | distance | known | seven |
| and | book | experience | management | sometimes |
| as | bought | family | more | sports |
| attract | by | find | nearly | started |
| because | career | he | no | to |
| become | championship | him | of | together |
| begun | competitor | important | on | toward |
| behavior | determined | international | professional | world |

Use the letters that are left to make the word that tells what Major wouldn't allow to destroy him.





A Major Champion

Board Game Activity

STAGE 6

- ★ Spin the numbered spinner.
- ★ The highest number starts.
- ★ You need to spin the exact number to move onto the END square.

START
You are Marshall Taylor, born in 1878, the year bicycle racing began.

1

2

3 Your father's employer buys you a bicycle so that you can ride with his son. Go on to 7.

19 You turn professional and earn a lot of money. Name 2 numbers. If you spin one of them, go on to 23.

20

21

22 You are banned from races because you're black. Go back to 18.

23

4

18

END
When you die, you're buried in an unmarked grave, but later you're reburied as a final tribute for a champion.

23

24

5

17

30

25

24

25 You are refused entry to hotels and restaurants. Go back 5 spaces.

6 You take your bicycle to be fixed at a store called Hay and Willits. Miss a turn.

16

29

26

25 You are refused entry to hotels and restaurants. Go back 5 spaces.

7

7

15

28

27 In 1898, you hold seven world records. Go forward 2 spaces.

26

8 Tom Hay offers you a job and gives you a bicycle to enter a race. Spin again. Go forward that number.

8 Tom Hay offers you a job and gives you a bicycle to enter a race. Spin again. Go forward that number.

14 You train with Munger and use his machinery to modify your bike. Spin again. Go forward that number.

13

12

11 You have no experience racing, but you win your first race. Spin again. If you spin a 1 or 6, go on to 15.

10

9



