

Name: _____

Magical Cartoonist

By Cynthia Sherwood

Without the creativity of one man, there would be no “happiest place on earth,” also known as Disneyland. Walt Disney was a creative genius who looked out on a huge orange grove and imagined building a “magic kingdom.”

Disney was born in 1901 in Chicago, Illinois. As a child, he enjoyed drawing and even sold his pictures to neighbors. When he was sixteen, he joined the Red Cross and drove an ambulance in France during World

Dumbo, and Bambi.

It was in the 1940s that Walt Disney first had his brainstorm about a fun park for families. His idea grew bigger and bigger, and he realized he needed a lot of space for his park. He wanted it to have everything—a mountain, rockets, spinning tops, and a fairy castle.



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and the Seven Dwarfs premiered. It was the first full-length animated movie, and a huge success. Disney made many more movies that we still watch today, including Pinocchio,

they would. If you ever visit one of the parks, go to a Disney movie, or watch the Disney Channel, you can think of the man with amazing ideas who started it all.



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1. List two things that Walt Disney did before he began making cartoons.



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_____ Walt Disney lived in Kansas City and made short cartoons.

3. How many years ago was Disneyland first opened to the public?

4. Which statement is an opinion?

- a. Disney made many movies that we still watch today.
- b. In the 1940s, Disney had a brainstorm about a fun park for families.
- c. Disneyland opened in a former orange grove.
- d. Walt Disney was a creative genius.

ANSWER KEY

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1. List two things that Walt Disney did before he began making cartoons.

Walt Disney drew pictures and sold them to his neighbors.

He also joined the Red Cross and drove an ambulance

during World War I.



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2 Walt Disney lived in Kansas City and made short cartoons.

3. How many years ago was Disneyland first opened to the public?

Answers will change depending on current year. Students can subtract 1955 from

current year. example: 2010 - 1955 = 55 years ago

4. Which statement is an opinion?

- a. Disney made many movies that we still watch today.
- b. In the 1940s, Disney had a brainstorm about a fun park for families.
- c. Disneyland opened in a former orange grove.

d. Walt Disney was a creative genius.