

Learn more about Nellie Bly and women's history with these resources

Blos, Joan W. *Nellie Bly's Monkey: His Remarkable Story in his own Words*. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1996.

A picture book that tells Nellie Bly's journey through the eyes of her monkey, McGinty. There is also a short biography at the end. Most suitable for elementary students.

Davidson, Sue. *Getting the Real Story*. Seattle: Seal Press, 1992.

A biography of two early female reporters: Nellie Bly and Ida B. Wells. Though the biographies are based on fact, the author uses scenes and conversations that are imaginary. Most suitable for middle school students.

Websites!

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/world/>

The website for "The American Experience," a PBS program which also has information on ordering the video, *Around the World in 72 Days*. The video is a great overview of Nellie Bly's around the world trip.

http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Nellie_Bly.aspx

A brief encyclopedia article.

<http://www.greatwomen.org/women-of-the-hall/search-the-hall/details/2/22-Cochran>

The National Women's Hall of Fame website.

<http://www.nellieblyonline.com/gallery>

On this site one will find Nellie Bly trading cards.

<http://www.newseum.org/>

This website contains information on the history of newspapers.

<http://www.library.csi.cuny.edu/dept/history/lavender/386/nellie.html>

This website gives a brief biography of Nellie Bly along with links to other helpful sites.

<http://www.nmwh.org/>

The National Women's History Museum website.

Ehrlich, Elizabeth. *Nellie Bly*. New York, Chelsea House Publishers, 1989.

A biography of Nellie Bly's life with excellent images from the different countries that she visited on her around-the-world trip. Most suitable for middle school students.

Kroeger, Brooke. *Nellie Bly: Daredevil, Reporter, Feminist*. New York: Times Books, 1994.

The most comprehensive biography of Nellie Bly's life. Most suitable for high school students.

Rittenhouse, Mignon. *The Amazing Nellie Bly*. New York, E.P. Dutton and Company, 1956.

One of the first Nellie Bly biographies for young readers. Most suitable for middle and high school students.



The Nellie Bly game as published in *The World*, February 26, 1890. Library and Archives Division, Sen. John Heinz History Center

SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND TOURS



Many exciting school programs are available at the History Center. Four types of student tours are described below. Please visit the History Center website at www.heinzhistorycenter.org – click on "Education" – to learn more about each tour. For each tour theme, you will find a tour overview sheet with a description, objectives, essential questions and a sample of what you might see on the tour.

Guided Tours for pre-kindergarten students through 12th grade are one to two hours in length, plus a one half hour for lunch, available Monday through Friday, year-round. Students will explore many aspects of life in Western Pennsylvania through docent-

guided museum learning, investigative questioning, and hands-on discovery. Discussions of daily life and major events like the British, French, and Indian War, Lewis and Clark Expedition, the Civil War, Gilded Age, and World Wars connect students to the everyday and extraordinary lives of local people throughout American history.

Tours generally include a visit to four exhibits (30 minutes per exhibit) that share a common theme. Teachers should choose one of the following themes to focus their tour through Western Pennsylvania history.

Themes:
Immigration and Migration
Transportation and Industry
African American Experiences
Cultural Geography
History Highlights

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS



Pittsburgh CLO Academy of Musical Theater Just a few blocks from the bright lights of the Benedum Center, the sound of booming pianos bounces off the brightly painted walls of Pittsburgh CLO Academy of Musical Theater as children of all ages enthusiastically train for their moment in the spotlight. Providing the finest dance, music, and acting training, and affiliated with one of the most respected musical theater organizations in the country, the

Pittsburgh CLO Academy encourages both an appreciation for musical theater and a well-rounded education through professional quality courses.

Through dramatic sketches and musical vignettes, **Pittsburgh CLO's Gallery of Heroes** program takes its 50-minute mini-musicals to area schools to educate and enlighten students about great historical figures such as Roberto Clemente, the Wright Brothers and Harriet Tubman. Highlighting the lives and accomplishments of significant historical figures, the Gallery of Heroes program offers an entertaining alternative

Self-Guided Tours are for teachers who facilitate their own museum experience. We encourage teachers to tour our building in preparation for their visit. Worksheets or scavenger hunts designed by the teacher are highly recommended. Self-guided tours are for a maximum of 200 students, pre-kindergarten students through 12th grade. They are one to two hours in length, plus a one half hour for lunch, available Monday through Friday, July through February and on Mondays only during March through June. These tours feature a museum overview, introduction by a museum educator, and include a map of the History Center and exhibit directory.

Experience Classes provide an opportunity for a class of up to 30 students, pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, to study in-depth with museum experts. They include a tour and/or discussion, hands-on opportunities,

and an activity. Each class is two to three hours in length, plus a one half hour for lunch, and available Monday through Friday, July through February. Reserve your program at least two months in advance in order to schedule with a curator or archivist.

Early Childhood Education Programs, age 2 through 2nd Grade, include a story, short tour through the museum and a hands-on craft or activity that makes learning fun as well as meeting early learning standards. Group size is a maximum of 20 students. Tour availability is Monday through Friday, year-round, 9:00am – noon.

Teachers may obtain a Free Preview Pass to visit the History Center to investigate the opportunities for their students. For more information or to schedule a school visit, call the History Center's Group Tour Coordinator 412-454-6304.

themselves, their own lives and futures. **"A" in Arts** is Pittsburgh CLO's way of recognizing excellence in school arts programs. Students trade A's in high school arts classes for tickets to Pittsburgh CLO's exciting productions at the Benedum Center.

Student Coupons are another way Pittsburgh CLO makes theater accessible to young people. Students see four shows for only \$10 each. For more information call 412-281-2822.

Creative Vision is Pittsburgh CLO's Partnership with the Pittsburgh Public School System and Propel Schools. Training in Dance, Voice and Acting combine with student creativity and accountability to promote participants' interest not only in the arts, but in



pittsburghCLO.org

Amazingly
 True Adventures
 of Nellie Bly



in partnership with



pghhistory.org

A GALLERY OF HEROES MUSICAL
 Book, Music and Lyrics written by
JASON COLL



Major support for the Gallery of Heroes is provided by Massey Charitable Trust, PNC Charitable Trust

Timeline: The Amazingly True Adventures of Nellie Bly

1860

Abraham Lincoln elected 16th President of the U.S.

1861

Confederate States of America formed. Confederates take Fort Sumter in Charleston, SC and Civil War begins.

1863

President Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation granting freedom to all slaves held in Confederate States.

Lincoln delivers the "Gettysburg Address" at the dedication of a military cemetery on the Gettysburg battlefield. US Congress establishes free city mail delivery.



The house where Nellie Bly was born – Cochran's Mills, Armstrong County, PA. Courtesy of Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

1864

Elizabeth Jane Cochran, later Nellie Bly, is born in Cochran's Mills near Apollo, PA. Abraham Lincoln is re-elected president of the United States. Pittsburgh composer, Stephen Foster, dies in New York.

1865

Confederate States of America surrender to Union forces at Appomattox.

Abraham Lincoln is assassinated and Andrew Johnson becomes President.

The 13th Amendment to the US Constitution abolishes slavery.

Lewis Carroll writes "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland."

1868

Louisa May Alcott writes "Little Women."

1869

Ulysses S. Grant becomes 18th President of the United States.

George Westinghouse establishes the Westinghouse Air Brake Company.

H.J. Heinz Company is established.

Pennsylvania Female College (now Chatham College) opens.

1870

Elizabeth Cochran's father, Judge Michael Cochran, dies.

The Kaufmann brothers open a men's clothing store on the South Side of Pittsburgh. It later becomes Kaufmann's Department Store and moves to downtown Pittsburgh.



Nellie Bly. Courtesy of Museum of the City of New York.

1875

First use of the Bessemer process in United States Steel production at the Edgar Thomson Works in Braddock, Pennsylvania.

1876

Alexander Graham Bell invents the telephone.

1877

Rutherford B. Hayes is elected 19th President of the United States by the Electoral College, despite losing the popular vote to Samuel Tilden.

1879

Elizabeth Cochran's mother divorces her 3rd husband after Elizabeth testifies in court on her mother's behalf.

Elizabeth Cochran enrolls in the Indiana State Normal School (Indiana, PA) but has to withdraw after one year because she has no money for tuition.

Electric street lights are installed for the first time in Pittsburgh.

1872

Ulysses S. Grant re-elected as President of the U.S. George Westinghouse invents the automatic railroad air brake.

1873

Elizabeth Cochran's mother remarries John Jackson Ford.

Color photographs first developed.

E. Remington & Sons begin to manufacture typewriters.

1880

Elizabeth Cochran's mother and siblings move to Pittsburgh from Apollo, PA.

Andrew Carnegie begins large-scale steel production.

1881

J.A. Garfield becomes 20th President of the U.S. He dies in May and is succeeded by Vice President Chester Arthur.

The Homestead Mill of the Bessemer Steel Company opens.

1882

Abolitionist and editor of "The Saturday Visitor (sic)" newspaper, Jane Grey Swisshelm, dies.

1883

The first skyscraper (10 stories) is built in Chicago.

1884

Erasmus Wilson begins writing his column, "Quiet Observations," for the *Pittsburgh Dispatch*.

1885

Elizabeth Cochran writes a letter to the *Pittsburgh Dispatch* in response to a column by Erasmus Wilson. She signs her letter, "Lonely Orphan Girl."

1885

Grover Cleveland becomes 22nd President of the U.S.

Managing editor for the *Pittsburgh Dispatch* runs an ad in search of the "Lonely Orphan Girl" who had written such a lively response to Wilson's article.



Anderson Street, Allegheny City (now Pittsburgh's North Side) looking toward Ninth Street Bridge. Courtesy of Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

Elizabeth Cochran responds to the ad and signs on to write for the *Pittsburgh Dispatch*.

Elizabeth Cochran's first article, "The Girl Puzzle," is published.

Elizabeth Cochran assumes the pen name, Nellie Bly.

1886

Nellie Bly leaves for Mexico to write as a foreign correspondent for the *Pittsburgh Gazette*.

1887

Nellie Bly leaves Pittsburgh for New York City to further her career in journalism.

John Cockrill, managing editor of the

New York World, challenges Bly to be committed to a women's insane asylum and then to write about her experience for his newspaper.

Nellie Bly feigns insanity and is committed to the Women's Lunatic Asylum on Blackwell's Island, New York, where she lives as an inmate for 10 days.

The Johnstown Flood claims over 2,300 lives.

Mary Croghan Schenley presents the city of Pittsburgh with 300 acres of land to be used for public parks.

1890

The *New York World* newspaper promotes Nellie Bly's trip around the world and readers throughout the United States follow the accounts of her journey with great anticipation. She arrives in Jokohama on January 4 and in San Francisco on January 20.

1888

Nellie Bly's popularity as a reporter grows. She continues writing exposé pieces which uncover political corruption and the unfair treatment of immigrants, women and the poor throughout the City.



View of Ohio Street, North Side, Pittsburgh. Courtesy of Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

Nellie Bly investigates the illegal activities of New York politician Edward R. Phelps, which leads to his removal from office.

1889

Nellie Bly publishes her first and only novel, *The Mystery of Central Park*.

Bly moves beyond stunt journalism and earns praise for her in-depth interviews with leading figures in the community.

In an effort to boost sagging newspaper sales, Bly embarks on her trip around the world in hopes of beating the 80 day record set by fictitious character Phileas Fogg. She leaves from the Hoboken Pier in New Jersey on November 14. She arrives in Colombo, Sri Lanka on December 8.

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Nellie Bly in her famous traveling clothes. Courtesy of Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

The Nellie Bly Guessing Match Blank, which appeared daily in *The World* in December 1889 and January 1890. Courtesy of the *New York Public Library*.

Nellie Bly successfully completes her trip around the world in less than 80 days. She arrives in New Jersey 72 days, six hours and 11 minutes after her departure.

1892

The Homestead Strike brings Pinkerton guards hired by Henry C. Frick. The guards fire on the striking workers and 16 men are killed in the battle.

1893

Nellie Bly returns to the *New York World* newspaper, now under new management, and publishes her interview with anarchist Emma Goldman.

Construction begins for the Carnegie Public Library in Oakland.

Phipps Conservatory in Schenley Park is completed.

1894

Workers for the Pullman Palace Car Company go on strike and Nellie Bly travels to Chicago to write about the strike from the workers' point of view.

1895

Auguste and Louis Lumiere invent a motion-picture camera.

Nellie Bly interviews Eugene V. Debs, leader of the American Railway Union, while he is jailed for contempt of court during the Pullman Strike.

Nellie Bly leaves New York for Chicago to work briefly for the *Chicago Time-Herald* newspaper.

Nellie Bly marries Robert Livingston Seaman.

Women are first admitted to Schools of Law and Pharmacy at the Western University of Pennsylvania (later University of Pittsburgh).



Women working in the Brighton Laundry. Library and Archives Division, Sen. John Heinz History Center

1898

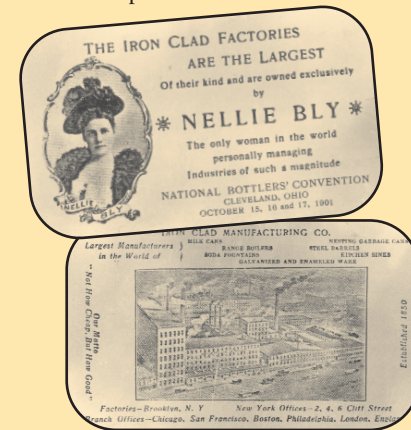
Willa Cather joins the staff of the *Pittsburgh Dispatch* and later accepts a job at the *Pittsburgh Leader*.

Mesta Machine Company is established to manufacture machinery used in steel making.

1899

Bly becomes president of her husband's business, the Iron Clad Manufacturing Company.

Bly is also president of a sister company, The American Steel Barrel Company, which manufactured steel barrels that Bly designed and for which she held the patents.



Front and back of a tin advertisement. Courtesy of Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

1901

U.S. President William McKinley is assassinated. He is succeeded by Theodore Roosevelt.

United States Steel is organized as one large company.

1903

Ford Motor Company is founded.

The first World Series baseball games are played at Exposition Park, then home of the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Nellie Bly's husband dies.

First telegraphic transmission of photographs.

1905

The Nickelodeon, the nation's first movie theater, opens in Pittsburgh.

1906

Upton Sinclair's novel, *The Jungle*, leads to the U.S. Pure Food and Drug Act.

1907

First daily comic strip runs in *San Francisco Chronicle*.

1910

W.E.B. DuBois founds the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

1911

Nellie Bly's companies undergo financial difficulties after several employees and advisors mismanage and embezzle money.

1912

The Titanic sinks on her maiden voyage to New York.

The Gulf Oil Company opens the country's first automobile service station on Baum Boulevard.

1913

Woodrow Wilson becomes the 28th President of the U.S.

1914

World War I begins (U.S. enters in 1917).

Bankruptcy proceedings end concerning Nellie Bly's companies. She is reinstated as president of the American Steel Barrel Company.

Bly sets sail for Europe and writes articles regarding the frontline of World War I for the *Evening Journal*.

Bly spends the next several years in Europe working as a war correspondent.

1919

Nellie Bly returns from Europe and finds her finances are depleted. She writes again for the *New York Evening Journal*.

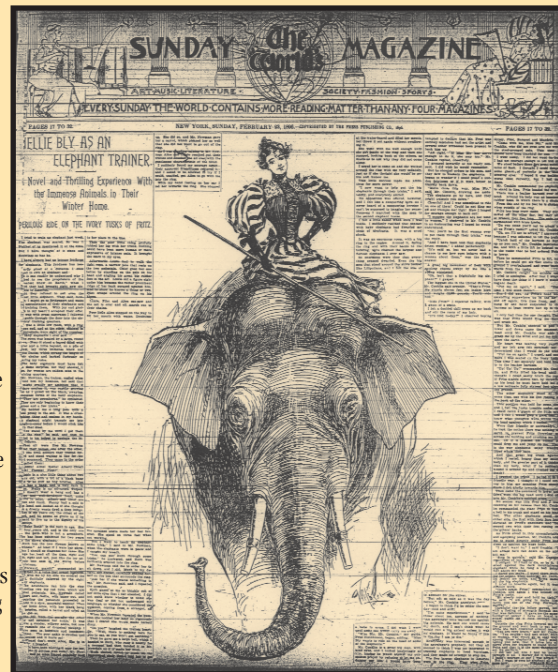
1921

Bly writes several articles championing the welfare and placement of orphaned children.

1920

The 19th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution is passed giving women the right to vote.

Prohibition begins in the United States. This law prohibits the sale of alcoholic beverages.



Sunday Magazine Newspaper. Courtesy of the Museum of the City of NY.

1921

KDKA is established in Pittsburgh as the country's first commercial radio station.

Nellie Bly continues to write for the *New York Evening Journal* and works as an advocate for orphaned children.

1922

Nellie Bly dies.

1923

President W.G. Harding dies in office and is succeeded by Calvin Coolidge.

H.J. Heinz dies of pneumonia.

Andrew Carnegie dies at his home in Massachusetts.

Henry Clay Frick dies at his home in New York.