

## Biography Builders — Book Project (2 Sessions)

**Outcome:** Students create a biography book about a real person using facts from research (short summary or full 11-page plan) and publish it in Build My Story.

### Teacher Prep (5 minutes before class)

**Decide on the topic your students will write about. This could be anything you are currently teaching!**

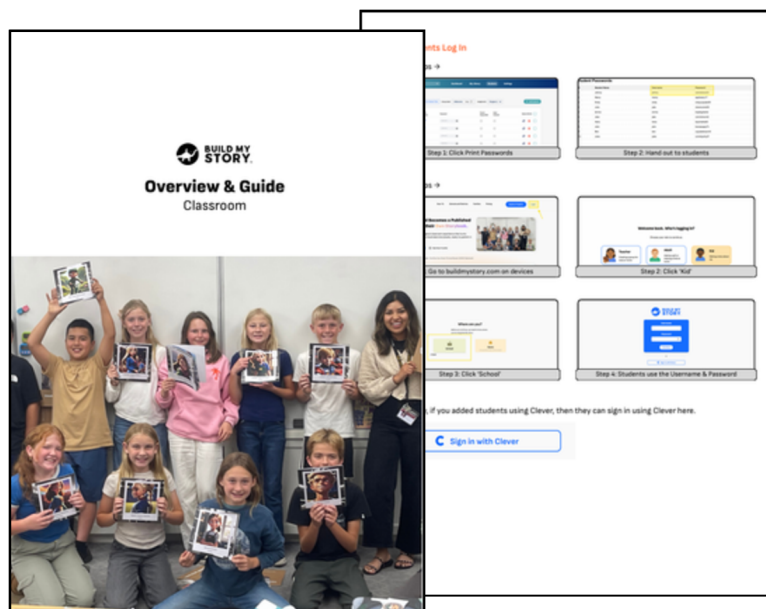
- *Choose your focus: Women's History Month / Black History Month / Change-Makers*
- *Pick ONE resource type for your students. Below are a few ideas. Build My Story provides passages to use:*
  - ☐ *short YouTube clip (2–4 min)*
  - ☐ *read-aloud excerpt*
  - ☐ *class text/article*
  - ☐ *1-page passage (Included In Resources)*
- *Print Worksheets*

### Standards snapshot

- *Informative writing: biography summary/book (CCSS W.2)*
- *Key details + sequence: facts, timeline, importance (CCSS RI.1–3)*
- *Digital publishing: create and share (CCSS W.6)*

### Using the BMS Guide

We provide a supplementary guide to go along with this lesson plan. It gives an overview of the in-class project, including how students create their books, where to access resources, what you do as the teacher, how to communicate with families, and a suggested timeline.



## Session 1 (45 minutes) — Learn + Plan + Write

### 1 Launch & Learn (6–8 min)

Teacher:

- Introduce the person/theme (bolt-on to what you're teaching)
- Play a short video OR read a short passage aloud
- Say: "We only write true facts today."

Students:

- Listen/read and spot key facts

**Quick check: Students can answer: "Who is this?" and "Why do they matter?"**

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### 2 Plan with Templates (12–14 min)

Teacher:

- Hand out Figure Profile (for the character)
- Hand out Biography Builder (facts & planning)
- Model 1 example: "Here's a fact. Here's where I found it."

Students:

- Fill Profile (look, clothing, time period, place, props)
  - Fill Biography Builder with short notes
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### 3 Write (20–25 min)

**Note: If students are typing directly into the Book Builder, move ahead to Session 2.**

Option 1: Short Summary (recommended for most students)

- Students write 5 lines using the helpers:
- Who/When/Where → About them → Challenge → Contributions → Impact

Option 2: Full 11-Page Biography (200 Words Total)

- Students write a complete 11-page biography using the page guide. They write one main idea per page, totaling about 200 words across the full book.

**Exit ticket: A finished short summary OR at least pages 1–4 planned.**

## Session 2 (45 minutes) — Build the Book + Quick Revise

### ① Build My Story Publishing (15–20 min)

Teacher:

- Model how to enter text and select Educational type/style
- Remind: “No made-up facts. Use your Biography Builder.”

Students:

- Type their short summary OR their full draft
- Generate images using Profile details (clothing/props/setting)

**Done check: Book has title + pages + images + author name.**

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### ② Revise + Share (20–25 min)

Teacher:

- Pair check: “Is it true? In order? Does it say why they matter?”

Students:

- Make edits to their book
- Fix 1–2 things for clarity/accuracy
- Share one favorite page (partner or quick gallery walk)