

The Many Rides of Paul Revere

By James Cross Giblin

Scholastic Press, 2007

About the Author:

*Author, James Cross Giblin, has no official website, and there is no website for him through Scholastic, either.

James Cross Giblin was born in Cleveland, Ohio. His family moved to Painesville, Ohio, to follow his father's law business, when he was a young boy. Giblin enjoyed the local library's summer reading contest and has fond memories of spending time there. Giblin started out writing plays, but to his despair, none were ever sold. So he took to publishing and did this for twenty years. When he took an early retirement, Giblin's fondness for children's books and his love of writing sparked a new career. Giblin began writing children's books, with his first being published in 1980, and has authored more than twenty. Giblin writes mostly historical books, including biographies. His story-telling technique enchants his readers with factually rich books that teach us the truths of the past.

James Cross Giblin's major awards include: Sibert Medal, fifteen ALA Notables, four Best Books for Young Adults, five Orbis Pictus Honors, two Boston Globe/Horn Book Honors for Nonfiction, Washington Post Body of Work Award, National Book Award, three Golden Kite Awards, and two Ohio State Awards.

The book has been named to the Charlie May Simon Children's Book Award Reading List, for 2009-2010, and Young Hoosier Book Award Nominee List, for 2009-2010. It has also received the following literary prizes: starred in Book Links, starred in Booklist, starred in Horn Book, starred in Library Media Connection, starred in School Library Journal, and the ALA Notable Children's Books.

Annotation:

James Cross Giblin has not just told us the famous midnight ride story of Paul Revere, in his book *The Many Rides of Paul Revere*, but he has made sure that he is factually accurate and tells us so much more than we have ever heard before about this wondrous man from our Nation's past. Giblin informs his readers that Paul Revere made many rides similar to his infamous one, well-known for the poem "Paul Revere's Ride", written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, in 1860 and published in 1861. Giblin recounts Revere's father, Apollos Rivoire, coming to America from France, by way of Guernsey, and English island. He goes on to tell the tale of young Apollos's apprenticeship, how he married a prosperous Bostonian businessman's daughter, and they had a son, whom they named Paul Revere, which was the English name Apollos had given himself, after sometime of living in America. We learn in this fascinating

story, that Paul was schooled, but at the age of twelve left to become his father's silversmith apprentice. Paul learned this trade well, but when his father suddenly died, he and his brother were left to do the work of the business their mother now owned. Paul then abruptly left the family's silversmith business to join the Massachusetts militia fighting on the side of the British. This would be the only time he would fight for this side. When the French and Indian War ended, Paul returned to Boston to run the family business and marry. Paul belonged to the Masons and the Long Room Club, and the Sons of Liberty, for which he designed an emblem for its members to wear. The British Parliament began imposing taxes, which the Colonists found unfair, thus readers learn this and many other incidents involving Paul Revere, that led to the American Revolution. Paul made many rides to inform other towns and fellow Colonists of the British's plans of attacks. He also continued throughout the war and for the rest of his life his silversmith work, but began work with copper, paper, bell casting, and gun powder manufacturing. Giblin does a terrific job of teaching his readers about Paul Revere, from his skills and abilities to create magnificent pieces of silver, to his leadership skills and abilities as a founder of our Nation.

Genre: Biography

Point of View: Third Person

Theme: The theme of this book is the idea that Paul Revere was not just a man who made one famous ride to warn his fellow Colonists about the British. He was a man of great integrity, who had many skills, especially as a silversmith, and also one on whom one could count to get a job accomplished.

Conflict: The main conflict in this book was the actual American Revolution, and Paul's many rides to colonies to warn his fellow Colonists about British plans.

Conflict Resolution: When Paul Revere, William Dawes, and Samuel Prescott succeeded in their infamous midnight ride to warn the Colonists in Concord that the British were coming. The actual delivery of the message to the militia in Concord was completed by Samuel Prescott.

Characters:

Apollos Rivoire-the father of Paul Revere, died in 1754

Uncle Simon-the uncle of Apollos Rivoire, with whom he stayed a short time in Guernsey, and then sent Apollos to America

John Coney-a well-known Bostonian goldsmith, with whom Apollos Rivoire lived and was the apprentice to, upon arriving in America

Deborah Hitchbourn-the daughter of a prosperous Boston business man, she married Apollos Rivoire, and gave birth to Paul Revere. She lived with Paul and his family after Apollos' death. She died in May 1777, at the age of 73, from a long illness

Paul Revere-born either early or late in 1734 (there is conflicting evidence in the book). As a young man he was sturdy, brown-eyed, and had the dark complexion of his French ancestors. He was one of 7 siblings. Known for his midnight ride, he is also responsible for other such rides, being a silversmith and coppersmith, worked with paper, and a gunpowder manufacturer

Sara Orne-Paul's first wife, whom he married in August of 1757, he called her Sary, she died a few months after giving birth to their eighth child, in May of 1773 at 36

Rachel Walker-Paul's second wife, they married in September of 1773. They had 8 children. She died on June 26, 1813, at the age of 67.

Dr. Joseph Warren-Paul's good friend, a fellow Mason, he had an "outgoing personality that endeared him to his patients." It was said that he "observed absolute cleanliness in his medical practice" and was an "eloquent speaker". He died at the Battle of Bunker Hill (actually Breed's Hill) on June 17, 1775.

Colonel James Barrett-the militia leader at North Bridge, in Concord, on April 19, 1775

General Gage-the British overlord, sent to close Boston's ports

Samuel Adams-a fellow Mason, rebel leader, and member of the Sons of Liberty with Paul Revere

John Hancock- fellow Mason, rebel leader, and member of the Sons of Liberty with Paul Revere

William Dawes-a member of the Sons of Liberty, he was a part of Paul Revere's infamous ride, he was the man who took the only land route out of Boston

Samuel Prescott-a young doctor William and Paul met on the road to Concord the night of the infamous ride. He was the one to actually deliver the message to the militia in Concord that the British were coming, not Paul.

Setting: Boston, 1700s

Interest Level: 3rd-5th grades

Reading Level: 7.7 grade level equivalent, or 1060 Lexile

Booktalk:

From the humble beginnings of a lonely French boy, sent to America by his uncle for the great new opportunities that lie in a new land, we find the story of Apollos Rivoire, the father of Paul Revere. James Cross Giblin begins his novel with the foundation for who we do not know Paul Revere as today, a skilled craftsman. Paul Revere... when we hear that name we think merely of his infamous midnight ride to warn his fellow colonists of the looming attack of the British. But what we learn is so much more than that. The father of sixteen children left a lot of unknown legacy that has helped to form and mold our great nation into what it is today! And it is all here, waiting to be found in this wonderfully written biography of Paul Revere.

Vocabulary:

persecuting (1) – to harass and treat poorly because of race, religion, beliefs, etc.

apprentice (2) – someone who is bound legally to work for someone else, in return for being taught a trade

goldsmith (2) – someone who works with gold, making it into things

silversmith (2) – someone who works with silver, making it into things

crucible (5) – a container used for melting materials at high temperatures

ingot (5) – a mass of metal

burin (6) – a steel cutting tool, used for engraving

solder (6) – a material used to join metallic pieces together

tankard (6) – a large drinking cup that has one handle and a hinged lid

rector (7) – a person in charge of a parish (church)

warden (7) – an official in charge of laws within a parish (church)

circa (8) – made/born about

freemason (12) – a member of a secretive organization, usually consisting of men of trades

sentry (20) – a guard, especially a soldier, posted at a particular spot who is in charge of not allowing unauthorized persons through

acquitted (20) – to free or clear of any accusations (when you are accused of something)

overlord (22) – someone having supreme power over others

bankruptcy (23) – when you are out of money and still owe money to others

monopoly (23) – one person or group has control over all of something

hold (25) – the lower interior part of a ship where cargo is stored

treason (29) – violation of allegiance to one's country of ruler

sexton (35) – an employee of the church, responsible for the care and upkeep of the church property and sometimes the of ringing bells and digging graves

cache (43) – a hiding place

galled (45) – causing extreme uneasiness

unscathed (50) – unharmed, not injured

deliberation (55) – the discussion of all sides to decide a verdict

verdict (55) – the opinion of the jury, whether or not the accused is guilty

foundry (57) – a place where metal is melted and poured into molds

relic (61) – something that has survived many years

ardent (66) – passionate

indefatigable (66) – tireless

Indiana Academic Standards:

Grade 3:

Language Arts: 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.6, 3.1.8, 3.1.9, 3.2.1, 3.2.6, 3.2.8

Social Studies: 3.1.4, 3.1.5, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.5, 3.2.6

Grade 4:

Language Arts: 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.6, 4.1.7, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.2.6, 4.2.8

Social Studies: 4.1.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.15, 4.1.16

Grade 5:

Language Arts: 5.1.2, 5.1.4, 5.1.6, 5.2.1, 5.2.1, 5.2.4, 5.2.5

Social Studies: 5.1.5, 5.1.7, 5.1.8, 5.1.9, 5.1.10, 5.1.11, 5.1.13, 5.1.18, 5.1.20, 5.1.21

Anticipation Statements:

Before You Read (agree or disagree)	<i>The Many Rides of Paul Revere</i> By James Cross Giblin	After You Read (agree or disagree)
	Having to move to another state/country is not hard.	
	Learning a trade will not get you anywhere in life.	
	Paul Revere is only made on ride, the midnight ride to warn that the British were coming.	
	Paul Revere had nothing to do with the formation of the nation.	

Read-Alouds:

Chapter 1, page 4: “Paul’s formal education ended when he was twelve. That was the age when most boys left school and became apprentices to master craftsmen.” I would talk to the students before reading the passage about how long we go to school, how many years, why it is important, etc. Then I would ask what they know about school in the 1700s. After reading, we would discuss trades, what they are, and why they were important to people in those days.

Chapter 9, page 59: “Paul had never shied away from a challenge, though. Nor had he ever been afraid of trying new things. He had mastered every skill he set out to learn, from making false teeth to engraving copper plates to casting church bells.” Before reading this passage I would ask the students about their thoughts on starting and trying new things. After reading the passage, I would talk to the students about what we think might have happened had Paul never tried anything new. Where would we be today? Would we even know who Paul Revere was? What does that mean to us and what we do when we try something new?