

Stanford House Classics - Beginners

DAVY CROCKETT

Edith Thornton

read • respond • interact



DAVY CROCKETT

Edith Thornton

When the Mexican government stopped Americans from entering Texas, which was under Mexican rule, the people began to revolt and talk about an independent country. Davy Crockett and his friends wanted to be part of the new Texas, so they went to fight at a fort called the Alamo. When General Santa Anna's army attacked the Alamo with his enormous army, Davy and the others had no chance. They were all massacred!



Stanford House

DAVY CROCKETT

Davy Crockett was born in Tennessee, on the night of August the 17th, 1786. He spent most of his life travelling and hunting. He was a very famous man. There were many legends about him. There were stories of him hunting and killing ten fierce¹ bears in one day! He also fought² Buffaloes and Indians. People said he could swim like a fish, walk like an ox, run like a fox and send smoke signals better than an Indian! He was a tall man and he always wore³ a coonskin hat⁴ and carried a very long rifle.



1. **fierce:** wild and dangerous.
2. **fought** is the past tense of '*to fight*'; to combat.
3. **wore** is the past tense of '*to wear*'.
4. **coonskin hat:** hat made from the skin of a racoon.

ACTIVITY

 **Complete the crossword.**

1. Opposite of night.
2. A bear, ... ox.
3. Davy was ... famous.
4. Opposite of NO.
5. Davy Crockett's hat.
6. He carried a long ...
7. He walked like an ...
8. He ... swim like a fish.
9. Hunting and ... bears.
10. Davy was born in seventeen ...
11. A US state.
12. Eight, nine, ...

[illegible]

Listen and repeat.

Tennessee is a state in southern USA. Texas is in the south too, but at the time of Davy Crockett, it belonged to¹ Mexico. The American people soon learnt² that they could buy a lot of land for very little money in Texas, so a lot of people went there to live and work. The Mexican government thought³ there were too many Americans in their country and stopped them entering. This made the American settlers⁴ very angry and, in 1835, they began to revolt⁵. Davy and three friends decided to go to Texas and help the settlers.



1. **to belong to:** to be the property of.
2. **learnt** is the past tense of 'to learn': opposite of 'to teach'.
3. **thought** is the past tense of 'to think'.
4. **settlers:** people who go to live in a new place.
5. **revolt:** a rebellion.

ACTIVITY



Listen and correct. Put these words into the correct order.

Mexico to Texas belonged.

lot American lived of there a people.

settlers angry made very this the.

revolt they began to.

friends Davy and three his to decided go.



Now make the sentences negative.

The four men got on a boat in Memphis, on November the 2nd, and sailed¹ down the Mississippi. Then, they went up the Arkansas River to Little Rock. Everywhere² they went, people came to see the famous Davy Crockett. Davy loved to tell stories, eat and enjoy himself³, so the journey⁴ took a long time. In fact, they didn't reach Nacogdoches, in eastern Texas, until January.



1. **sailed:** travelled by boat.
2. **everywhere:** in every place.
3. **enjoy himself:** have a good time.
4. **journey:** trip, voyage.

ACTIVITY



Listen and write.

Mississippi.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Answers: Mississippi; Arkansas; belonged; Tennessee; fierce; Crockett; coonskin; travelling.



Pronunciation practise.

Listen and repeat.

AUGUST

AMERICAN

ANGRY

AT

ATE

ANY

ALL

AWFUL

Which 'a' sounds are the same?