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Who Is Derek Jeter? (Who Was?)



Synopsis

When Derek Jeter was eight years old, he announced that he was going to play baseball for the New York Yankees. Jeter earned the attention of major league scouts in high school and was drafted to the New York Yankees in 1992. Named Rookie of the Year, he helped the Yankees win the World Series five times, and became team captain in 2003. With his good looks, easygoing personality, and sense of humor, Derek has always been a fan favorite. Retiring from baseball in 2014, Derek Jeter leaves behind a legacy.

Book Information

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Gail Herman has written several biographies for young readers, including *Who Is Wayne Gretzky?*, *Who Was Davy Crockett?* and *Who Was Jackie Robinson?*

Who Is Derek Jeter? On April 2, 1996, Major League Baseball's Opening Day, the New York Yankees faced the Cleveland Indians. Once, the Yankees had been the top ball club in the country. They were a dynasty, with World Series titles. But the Yankees hadn't won a championship in eighteen years. They hadn't won the American League pennant since 1981. Maybe this would

be the start of a championship season at last. Today they were playing at Cleveland's Jacobs Field, and the score was tied, 0-0, in the top of the second. The Yankees had two men on base. New York fans grew excited. But now there were two outs. Could the Yankees still score? Twenty-one-year-old Derek Jeter stepped to the plate. And he . . . struck out. Derek was the first Yankees rookie to start at shortstop on Opening Day in more than thirty years. Why Derek? some fans wondered. Why now? He'd had a poor spring training. They doubted his strength at bat and on the field. It seemed they might be right. Derek told himself it was okay. This was just a game like any other. He tried not to be nervous. But it was hard. He was young and inexperienced. An April Fool's snowstorm had pushed the game back a day. The wait made it even harder. But Derek was determined to make a difference. In the fifth inning, he got a second chance at bat. Derek took two pitches, both balls. Then he saw a high fastball. He swung. Crack! The ball sailed high into the left-field stands. A home run! Two innings later, Derek made an over-the-shoulder, one-handed catch. He stranded a man on base to leave the Indians scoreless. The Yankees wound up winning 7-1. Any doubts about Derek Jeter vanished. For the Yankees, it was the start of a championship season. And for Derek Jeter, it was the start of an amazing major league career. By the time Derek retired, he had won five World Series titles, five Gold Gloves, five Silver Sluggers, Rookie of the Year, and a slew of other awards. He'd been a Yankee for almost half his life. And before he was a Yankee, he was a Yankees fan. Surely the biggest Yankees fan from Kalamazoo, Michigan.

My 11 year old grandson plays baseball and I was looking for a gift that was unique and different than the usual shirt or bat or ball. I've always admired Derek Jeter and how he has become such an idol and role model for young athletes. I have purchased multiple Derek Jeter books and many of them are geared towards middle school readers. I have read every book and love to discuss them with my grandson. Most notable is how Derek progressed from sandlot baseball to a famous Yankee shortstop, and the kind of commitment and dedication it took to fulfill his dream.

This is a great book. It was a book my 9 year old had to read for summer work. She really, really liked it! I will definitely pass it on to a student next year.

Easy to read book! My son is big into the Yankees and hes only 10 years old so these types of books are a very great read for kids who were not around much in the height of his career. Its so important these younger kids know about true legends!

I don't love baseball but now I am starting to like it more and more everyday so I do recommend this book

I bought this book as a gift for my nephew, who is a huge fan of the Yankees. It's a great way to enhance his reading skills while learning about one of our favorite players, and we have enjoyed reading the book together.

Best book ever that I have read. So if you like books with action funny characters or historical memories?then who is Derek jeter is a good book for you.

Like I said I loved it because it was so unique and about the best shortstop ever Derek Jeter is that shortstop

Love all these "Who Is" books. So do my fourth graders!

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