

Name _____

J.R.R. Tolkien: The Creator of Middle-earth

J.R.R. Tolkien was a famous English writer, professor, and storyteller. He is best known for creating *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*, two of the most popular fantasy books of all time. His stories are filled with adventurous journeys, magical creatures, and heroic battles.



Early Life and Education

John Ronald Reuel Tolkien was born on January 3, 1892, in South Africa. After his father passed away, his mother moved with him and his brother to England. Young Tolkien loved languages, fairy tales, and nature, which later inspired his books.

As a student, Tolkien was very interested in ancient myths and different languages. He studied at Oxford University, where he learned many languages and even created his own! His love for words and history helped him imagine the magical world of Middle-earth.

Serving in World War I

When World War I began, Tolkien became a soldier. The war was very difficult, and he lost many friends. His experiences during the war influenced his writing, as he created stories about bravery, friendship, and the struggle between good and evil.

After the war, Tolkien became a professor at Oxford University. He taught English language and literature and continued writing stories in his free time.

Writing *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*

In 1937, Tolkien published *The Hobbit*, a story about a small, brave creature named Bilbo Baggins who goes on an adventure to find treasure. The book was a huge success, and readers wanted more stories about Middle-earth.

Tolkien spent over ten years writing *The Lord of the Rings*, a much larger story about a magical ring, a dark lord, and a great quest to save the world. The books were published in 1954 and 1955 and became some of the best-selling books in history.

Tolkien's stories were inspired by myths, old languages, and his experiences in war. He created a detailed world with maps, unique cultures, and even invented languages spoken by elves and other creatures.

Legacy and Influence

J.R.R. Tolkien's books have inspired millions of people and led to movies, video games, and new fantasy stories. His work made fantasy books more popular and changed how people imagine magical worlds.

Tolkien passed away on September 2, 1973, but his stories continue to be loved by readers of all ages. Every year, fans celebrate his work by reading his books, watching movies, and even learning the Elvish languages he created! His stories remind us of the power of courage, friendship, and never giving up on our dreams.

