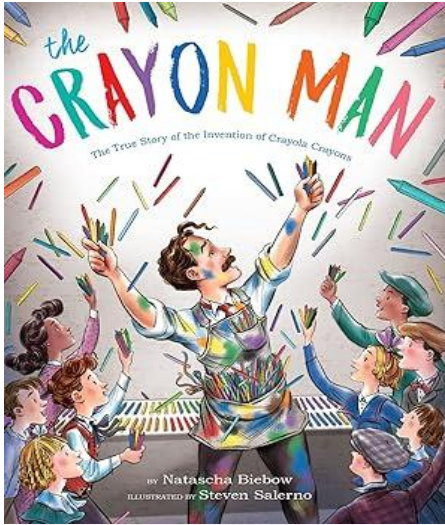


Discussion Guide for Families



The Crayon Man: The True Story of the Invention of Crayola Crayons

Author: Natascha Biebow

Illustrator: Steven Salerno

Themes: Creativity, Inventions

Book Brief: What child doesn't love to hold a crayon in their hands? But children didn't always have such magical boxes of crayons. Before Edwin Binney set out to change things, most children couldn't afford colored crayons.

READ ALOUD

Before Reading: Build Background

- Ask your child what are their favorite colors in the crayon box.

While Reading: Make Connections

- Why was everything so dark & gray in writing & drawing before crayons?
- Why does it take time & experimentation to create an invention? Why do you think so in the case of the crayons that Binney & Smith invented?

After Reading: Ask Questions

- How does you think the variety of colors and their names are imagined?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

If your child enjoyed this book, consider:

- Thinking about a time when you wanted to create a picture or poster
- Read more books about inventions, such as [*Whoosh! Lonnie Johnson's Super Soaking Stream of Inventions*](#).