



STEP INTO READING®

A HISTORY READER

Lewis and Clark

A Prairie Dog
for the President



by Shirley Raye Redmond · illustrated by John Manders

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the fascinating world of non-fiction! Here you will find natural science, biography, history, sports . . . and more.

STEP INTO READING® NON-FICTION READERS include a huge selection of high-interest topics to engage young readers. No child can resist finding out about such topics as:

- Animals, both fuzzy and fierce
- Brave, bold, and brainy people
- Wild weather, such as twisters
- Life in the time of ice mummies or the Age of Dinosaurs
- Supersized trucks that leap into the air

Why should children read non-fiction? The benefits are enormous. First, children build their vocabularies, encountering words that may not come up in ordinary conversation but are needed to increase reading comprehension.

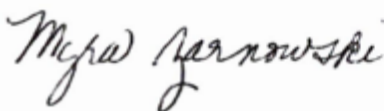
Second, non-fiction introduces children to a writing style that supports learning. When explaining new concepts, non-fiction writers often compare one thing with another. Comparisons make learning easy and fun.

Third, children build their store of background information. Context helps readers make important content connections, whether they are reading about history, biography, or natural science.

Last but not least, non-fiction books raise questions and motivate children to find answers.

The Common Core State Standards call on us to prepare children for college and careers by teaching them to read, write, and discuss non-fiction. **STEP INTO READING® NON-FICTION READERS** can help children meet this goal while enjoying informative, age-appropriate books.

Happy reading!



Myra Zarnowski
Professor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Queens College, City University of New York

Look for an F&P Text Level on the back of every book.



Learning to Read, Step by Step!



Ready to Read **Preschool–Kindergarten**

• big type and easy words • rhyme and rhythm • picture clues

For children who know the alphabet and are eager to begin reading.



Reading with Help **Preschool–Grade 1**

• basic vocabulary • short sentences • simple stories

For children who recognize familiar words and sound out new words with help.



Reading on Your Own **Grades 1–3**

• engaging characters • easy-to-follow plots • popular topics

For children who are ready to read on their own.



Reading Paragraphs **Grades 2–3**

• challenging vocabulary • short paragraphs • exciting stories

For newly independent readers who read simple sentences with confidence.



Ready for Chapters **Grades 2–4**

• chapters • longer paragraphs • full-color art

For children who want to take the plunge into chapter books but still like colorful pictures.

STEP INTO READING[®] is designed to give every child a successful reading experience. The grade levels are only guides; children will progress through the steps at their own speed, developing confidence in their reading. The F&P Text Level on the back cover serves as another tool to help you choose the right book for your child.

Remember, a lifetime love of reading starts with a single step!

For Theresa and the Prochazka clan
—S.R.R.

For Pop
—J.M.

Portraits of Lewis and Clark by Charles Willson Peale courtesy of
Independence National Historical Park.

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Redmond, Shirley Raye.

Lewis and Clark : a prairie dog for the president / by Shirley Raye Redmond ; illustrated
by John Manders. p. cm. — (Step into reading. A step 3 book.)

Summary: Introduces Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, who, during their
exploration of the West for Thomas Jefferson, captured a prairie dog and sent it to the
president as a gift.

ISBN 978-0-375-81120-3 (trade) — ISBN 978-0-375-91120-0 (lib. bdg.) 1. Lewis and Clark
Expedition (1804–1806)—Juvenile literature. 2. Lewis, Meriwether, 1774–1809—Juvenile
literature. 3. Clark, William, 1770–1838—Juvenile literature. 4. Jefferson, Thomas, 1743–
1826—Juvenile literature. 5. West (U.S.)—Description and travel—Juvenile
literature. 6. West (U.S.)—Discovery and exploration—Juvenile literature. 7. Prairie
dogs—West (U.S.)—Anecdotes—Juvenile literature. [1. Lewis and Clark Expedition
(1804–1806). 2. Lewis, Meriwether, 1774–1809. 3. Clark, William, 1770–1838. 4. Jefferson,
Thomas, 1743–1826. 5. Prairie dogs. 6. Explorers. 7. West (U.S.)—Discovery and
exploration.] I. Manders, John, ill. II. Title. III. Step into reading.

Step 3 book. F592.7 .R43 2003 917.8042—dc21 2002017829

Printed in the United States of America
23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16

This book has been officially leveled by using the F&P Text Level Gradient™ Leveling
System.

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read.



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A HISTORY READER

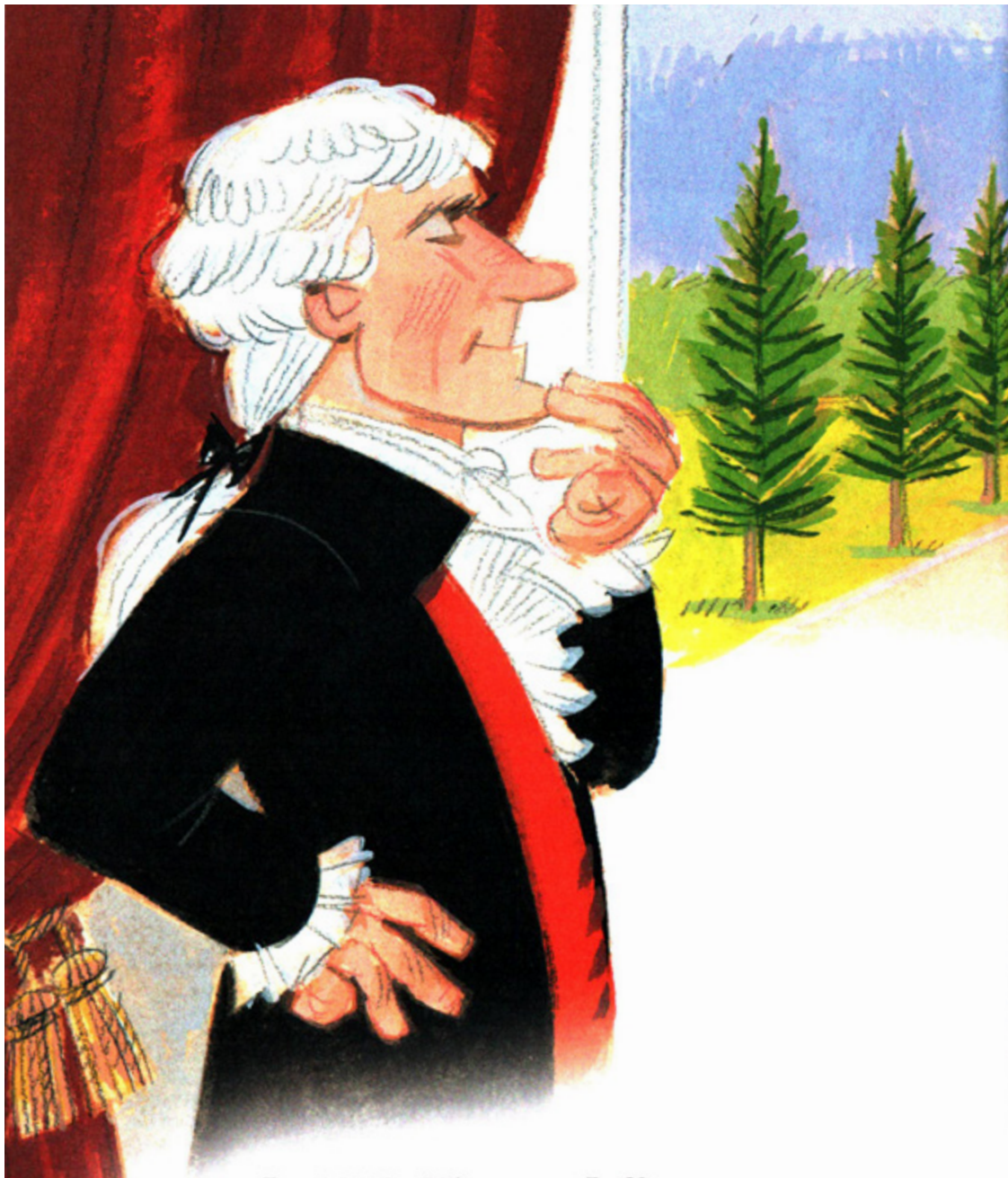
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In 1803, Thomas Jefferson
was the president
of the United States.



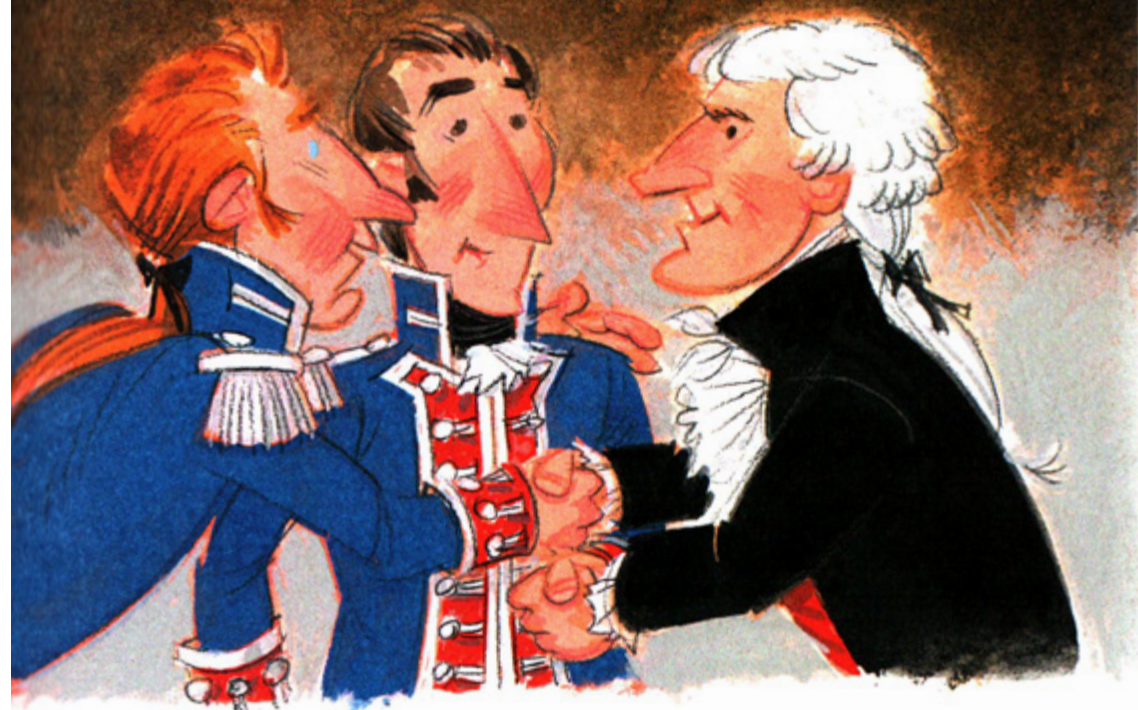
The country was still new.
It was also *very* big!
It was so big no one
had ever explored it all.
President Jefferson wondered
how long it would take
to reach the Pacific Ocean.
He wondered what the land
was like along the way.



The president wrote to his
friend Meriwether Lewis.



Lewis was a soldier.
He wanted to be an explorer.
Lewis's buddy William Clark
wanted to be an explorer too.



Lewis and Clark
went to see the president.
“I need someone
to explore the West,”
said the president.
“We’ll do it!”
said Lewis and Clark.

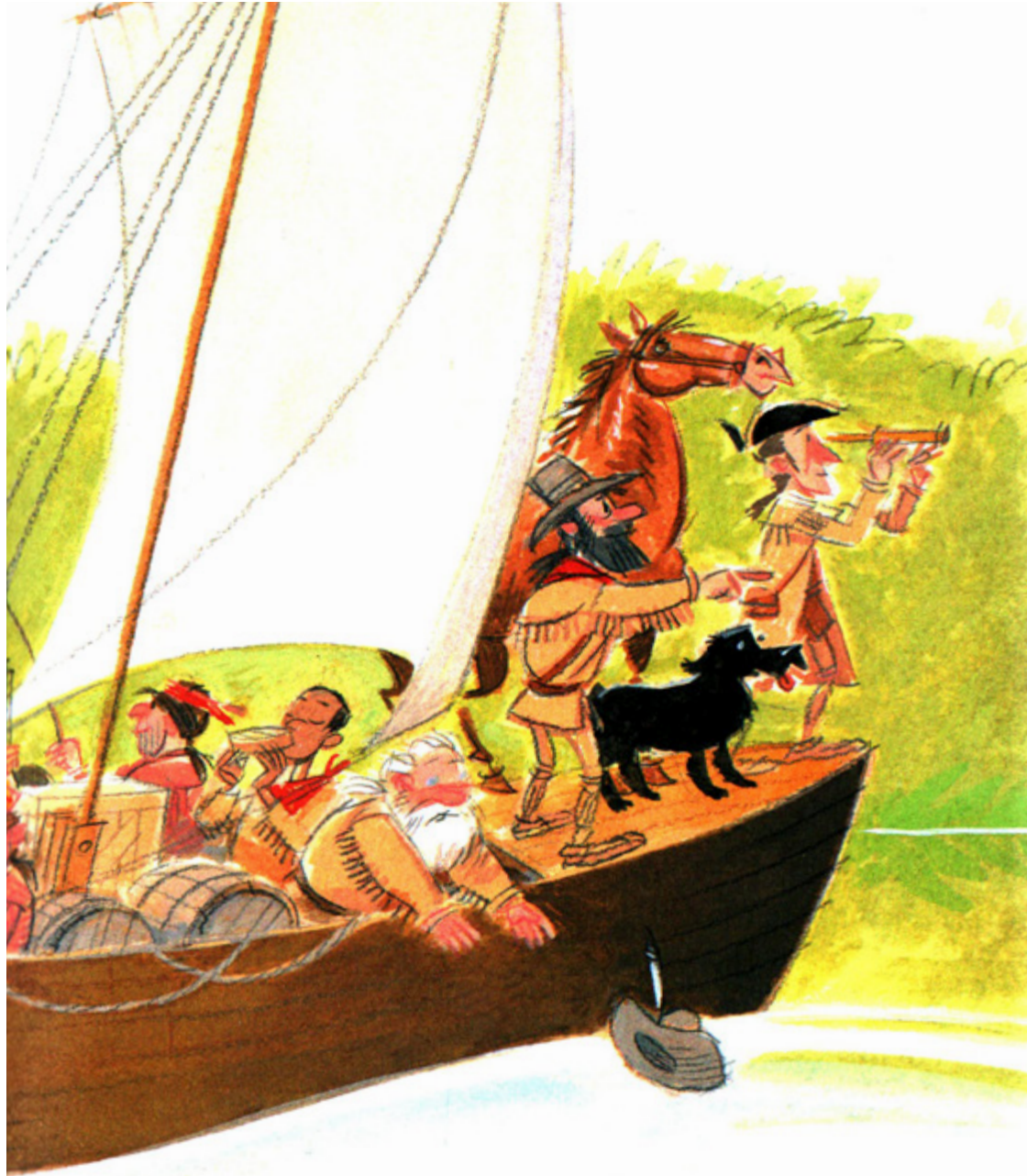


The president told
Lewis and Clark
to make maps
and explore rivers.
He told them to collect plants
and draw wild animals.
Most important,
he told them to send presents!





Lewis and Clark
needed helpers for
their journey.



They took soldiers,
scouts, and boatmen.
Lewis even took his dog.

It was a *long* trip.
One of the scouts
brought his wife,
Sacagawea
(sack-uh-juh-WEE-uh).
Sacagawea was a big help.
She picked nuts and berries.



She cooked meat and stew.



She talked and traded
with the Indians
they met on the way.



STEP INTO READING®

Lewis and Clark explore the American West.
What happens when they meet a prairie dog?



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F&P TEXT LEVEL M

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