



Where Is the Great Wall?

Patricia Brennan Demuth , Jerry Hoare (Illustrator) , David Groff (Illustrator)

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More than two thousand years ago, with his land under constant attack from nomads, the First Emperor of China came up with a simple solution: build a wall to keep out enemies. It was a wall that kept growing and growing. But its construction came at a huge cost: it is believed that more than a million Chinese died building it, earning the wall its nickname--the longest cemetery on earth. Through the story of the wall, Patricia Brennan Demuth is able to tell the story of China itself, the rise and fall of dynasties, the greatness of its culture, and its present-day status as a Communist world power.

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From Reader Review Where Is the Great Wall? for online ebook

Nathaniel says

I liked it. I would rate it 4 and 1/2 if I could. It talks about the history of the wall.

Daphne Kim says

This series is not only great for my daughter. I'm not only reminding myself of history I learned long ago, but am convinced I'm learning things I never learned.

Daria says

If u like geography or history it's the perfect book, but if not...it's also a good book! I really liked it so I can recommend it to u so...yeah...Love you guys!!! Bye!

Holly says

i read this because my special needs son is reading it and i often do that with some of the books he reads. yes, it's for kids, so don't expect anything otherwise. however, i really enjoyed it. i learned some interesting things i didn't already know about the great wall. it was a quick and easy read. my 60 something year old mother saw it sitting on my coffee table and wants to read it as well!

Alisha says

A quick middle-grade reader that succinctly covers the history of the Great Wall. Interesting and factual, without being too grim. Great for the 8yo, but also informative for me.

Sue says

Sorry, unbelievably boring--couldn't even flip through fast enough. ugh

Rick Silva says

I read this book aloud to my son (age 7) in preparation for our upcoming trip to China, which will include a day at the Great Wall.

This is a decent history of China for young readers. It strikes a good balance between amount of information and ease of reading. It doesn't gloss over the more harsh details of the story, such as the conditions faced by workers constructing the Wall, and the vast numbers of those workers who died there.

It does, by necessity, simplify a lot of history just to fit the whole narrative in a small number of pages.

Each chapter contains some short articles on topics related to the historical period covered in the chapter. They contained some interesting details, but I did find they disrupted the flow of reading the book aloud somewhat.

My son read along patiently and with interest, although not with the excitement he's had for some of the fiction books we've read together. He really liked the fold-out map in the back, and the book definitely has him looking forward to our upcoming trip.

Victor says

Where is The Great Wall, By: Brennan Demuth

The Great Wall stretches for about 4,000 miles. The wall was built in different time periods too. The first part started around 2,000 years ago. The Great Wall is the largest man made structure. It was used to keep the barbarians from killing the people and taking their possessions. Over 1 million people died building the Great Wall.

I liked this book because it is cool to learn about something so large that's it is the largest man made structure. I like this book also because I'm always hearing how cool it is

I would recommend this book to anyone who is wanting to read about some of China's history or the wall in particular.

Kellan Francis says

I liked it because the book told me all about the jobs where it was and how it was built by the Emperors slaves. The best thing about the book was how amazing how far the wall was and how they created all of it.

Jenna Kilpatrick says

Mostly history wasn't the best book I've ever read.

Natalie says

A long, long time ago China was a land of nomads. Then, about 6,000 years ago, the Chinese began to farm. As the Chinese planted roots their culture started moving far ahead of other countries. They had a written

language as early as 2200 BC. They invented all kinds of important things like porcelain and silk.

There was just one wee little problem: the barbarians!

These were the tribes of the Northern steppe and they kept attacking and wouldn't leave the Chinese alone.

The Chinese started building walls around their homes, then around cities, and finally started forming states.

Then this guy showed up.

Qin Shi Huangdi conquered all the states and became the first emperor of China. He was a cruel leader, but many of his reforms last to this day. He built roads and canals to link his empire. He developed a new government and established rules, but he also cut off free thought. Everyone would do things his way.

The only thing out of his control was the barbarian attacks. And the first Great Wall was began.

Workers were treated as slaves and many died.

Qin Shi Huangdi also began work on his tomb. He had 7,000 terra cotta soldiers designed and they still stand guard in Xian.

All the emperors after continued work on the wall until the Han Dynasty. That was a great time for China, but they let the Wall fall into disrepair. Wudi fixed it all back up.

In the middle ages Kublai Khan, the grandson of Genghis Khan, stormed China and killed the emperor. His line ruled for nearly 100 years before the Chinese revolted.

The Mongols had let the Wall fall into crumbling heaps, but the Ming dynasty started from scratch and built it back up.

I love these little junior non-fiction books. They're quick and easy to read and provide a nice look at different parts of history. My 4th graders love to read them. There's a whole bunch of different ones and I'd recommend them to adults and kids alike.

Mckinley says

Lots of facts, and side bars.

Deatrice says

This book is very informative. The illustrations are illuminating and fun to look at. Check out page 3 to see if you can find a funny editing mistake :-). At any rate, this book will have you yearning for more of the orient.
