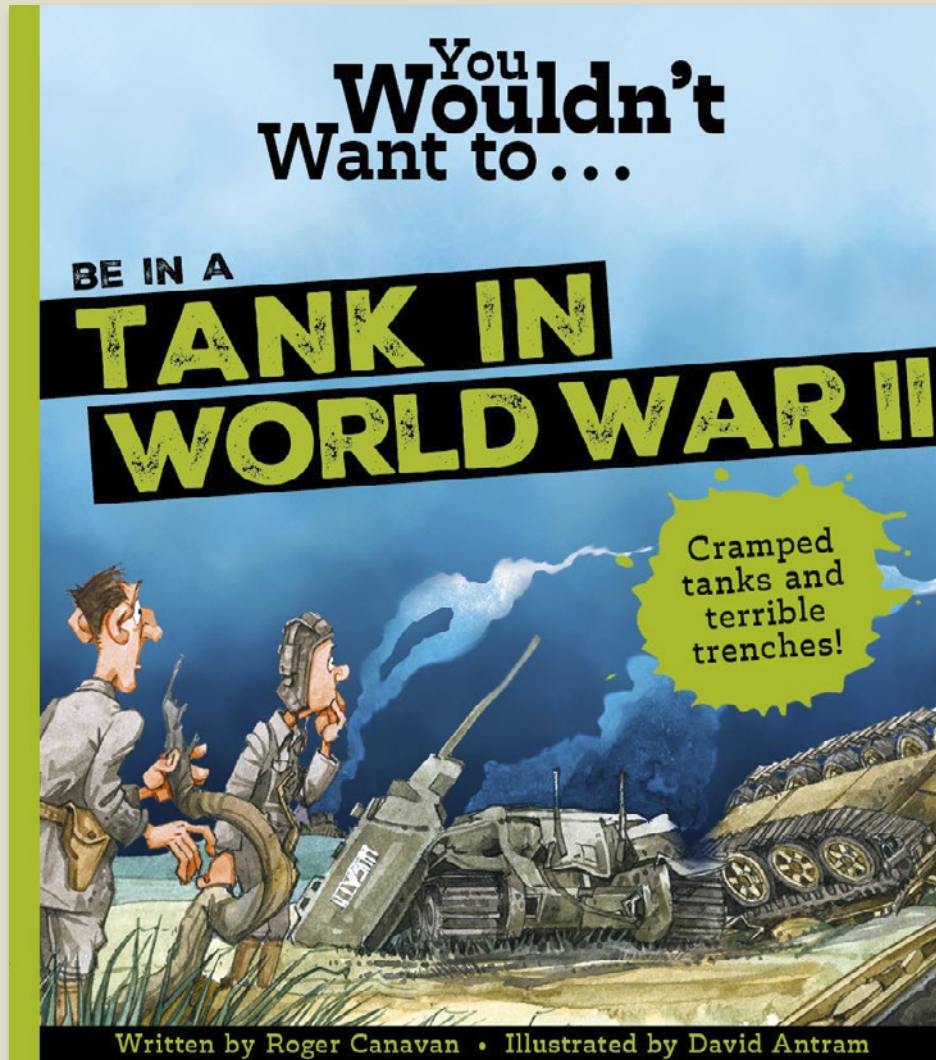


You Wouldn't Want To Be In A Tank In World War Two!



The grisly history of WW2 tank soldiers!

- Funny, foul and fact-filled book to engage reluctant readers with history and the KS2 curriculum.
- Written in consultation with The Tank Museum in Bovington, England, to ensure that its content is as accurate as possible.
- Combines funny text and comic illustrations to fascinating facts, managing to accurately convey historical realities in an educational, engaging way.

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Another war looming?

You're a proud member of Britain's Royal Tank Corps. Bored in the wake of the First World War, Army chiefs recognised the contribution of tanks to that victory which is why the Corps was formed. Spirits were high back then, and some people even referred to the 'war to end all wars'.

Things in the 1930s seem different. You're enjoying your training with the tanks and other armoured equipment, but the daily news is less peaceful. Fighting has broken out in Spain and word is there are military displays over in Germany. Adolf Hitler the German leader is telling his people that they must prepare for war. Your tank training begins to feel a lot more serious.

ARMY BROTHERS
The Royal Tank Corps was formed in 1917. It was the first armoured corps in the British Army. It was made up of men who had served in the First World War and were familiar with the use of tanks.

THE GREAT WAR
The Royal Tank Corps was formed in 1917. It was the first armoured corps in the British Army. It was made up of men who had served in the First World War and were familiar with the use of tanks.

HANDY HINT
A good tank crew needs to be able to work together. You'll have your own jobs to do, but you'll also have to help each other out. It's all about teamwork!

Ready to roll

It's a tight squeeze for the crew of a typical tank. The combination of heavy armour, fuel tanks, weapons and driving controls, and ammunition boxes, means very little space to sit comfortably or do anything. Do you feel like standing up or stretching? Forget it - all based on the fighting steps and it's safe to get out.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?
The name of the tank you're in will depend on the type of tank you're in. There are many different types of tanks, each with its own name. Some are called 'main battle tanks', some are called 'infantry tanks', and some are called 'cavalry tanks'.

HANDY HINT
A good tank crew needs to be able to work together. You'll have your own jobs to do, but you'll also have to help each other out. It's all about teamwork!

LOOK! WE'RE THE BIG HAPPY FAMILY!
The tank crew is a team. You'll have your own jobs to do, but you'll also have to help each other out. It's all about teamwork!

New battlefields

As the war progressed tanks wound up in the thick of fighting - in open ground, and forests, among forests and even in city streets. Tanks had to crash through thick jungles in Asia and on Pacific islands. As soon as the crews, exposed up in heavy tanks, dared to open the hatch, they faced risks - from snipers, machine-guns, machine-guns and enemy soldiers in the undergrowth.

THE COURAGE AND ENDURANCE OF TANK CREWS HELPED THE ALLIES DEFEAT GERMANY (IN MAY 1945) AND JAPAN (IN AUGUST 1945). THEY HELPED WIN THE WAR AND RESTORE THE PEACE.

ALBERT EINSTEIN'S THEORY
Einstein's theory of relativity was used to help the Allies to develop the atomic bomb. It was used to help the Allies to develop the atomic bomb.

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D-Day and beyond

You're taking part in history's largest invasion by sea. The date - 6 June 1944 - will be remembered as D-Day. A combined force of British, Americans and Canadians has crossed the English Channel and landed on beaches in Normandy, a region of north-west France. Nearly 7,000 ships and landing vessels transport troops, weapons and vehicles to five beaches. Awaiting them is Hitler's 'Atlantic Wall', a massive series of defences to repel any attack.

Tanks will play a big part in this offensive and the attack will be a chance to put some of Hobart's ideas into practice on the beaches and on the battlefields beyond. Many of them have floated into shore, buoyed up by 'flotation skirts' which can be removed once the tanks are on land.

If all goes well, the Allies will break through the coastal defences and drive the Germans back. Negotiating the countryside beyond, with its hills, marshes and hedgerows, will be a further deadly challenge - even to a powerful tank.

FEARSOME FIREPOWER
The huge firepower of German anti-tank artillery could strike terror in an advancing Allied tank crew. The shells from these cannons could pierce the thickest tank armour on the battlefield.

A CAPTURED PRIZE
German Tiger tanks were abandoned as their crews fled before the Allied advance from the beaches through the Normandy countryside.

A BREAK IN THE FIGHTING
Breaks in fighting gave tank crews the chance to swap stories with others while snatching a quick meal outside.

GOOD LUCK
Mascots brought tank crews luck. A grateful Dutch villager gave this teddy to a British tank crew in 1944. The bear travelled across Europe.

RACIAL PREJUDICE
The African-American crews of the US 761st Tank Battalion fought two enemies - Hitler's Germany and racial prejudice back home.

HANDY HINT
A tank that's hit can easily catch fire because of the ammunition. Make sure you bail quickly!

AHOY THERE! THE TANK'S AS DRY AS A BONE.

Pub Date	01/02/2024
Pub Price	£6.99
ISBN	9781800789425
H x W	240 x 212mm
Binding	Paperback
Age Range	9-11 years
Author	Canavan Roger Roger Canavan
Illustrator	David Antram
Extent	32pp
Rights Available	World