About the Book

Daniel Boone was born an adventurer. Before the United States had freed itself from Britain’s rule, Boone was blazing trails westward across America. He helped establish Boonesborough, Kentucky, one of the first American settlements west of the Appalachian Mountains.

Educator’s Guide
Discussion Questions and Interdisciplinary Connections

Literature/Language Arts

Autobiography vs. Biography—Students should learn the difference between these two genres of literature: that a biography is written about someone other than the author, and an autobiography is written by a person about his or her own life. CCSS 1-3:RI.9

Important Dates—At the end of the book, the authors present a chronological list of important years in Daniel Boone’s life. Students (perhaps with the help of their parents) can create a similar list of notable years in their own (albeit short) lives, beginning with the year they were born. They can include starting school, family trips, births of siblings, and other memorable events. They can then use the list to write a narrative of their own life—an autobiography. They can illustrate their writing and create a picture book autobiography. CCSS 1-3.W.3

Bibliography—The authors present a Selected Bibliography at the end of the book with the sources of the quotations used in the narrative. Students can choose three books on any subject that interests them and create a selected bibliography, using the format shown: Author’s last name, first name. Title of book in italics or underlined. City: Publisher, © (year). CCSS 1-2:RL.5

Heroes—Many people consider Daniel Boone to be a hero because he was a trailblazer as the United States was expanding to the west. As students experience his story, either by reading it themselves or having it read aloud to them, ask them to look/listen for the qualities Daniel began exhibiting at a very young age that ultimately led to his life’s work. These could include curiosity, restlessness, bravery, stubbornness, and others. Though they are young, students could begin to notice qualities or tendencies they recognize in themselves and talk or write about where these qualities might lead them.
**Geography**
Students can use a U.S. wall map or atlas to locate the places named in the story: Allegheny Mountains, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Ohio River, and Missouri. They can plot Daniel Boone's travels over this section of the U.S.

**Research & Online Resources**
The author provides links to three electronic resources related to Daniel Boone. Here are a few more:

**Wilderness Trail**—www.explorescottcountyva.org/summary.php?category=danielboonetrail shows the trail of Daniel's explorations and describes interesting points along the way and presents additional details of Daniel's experiences.

**Daniel Boone's Travels**—www.boonesociety.org/Boone%20Trace/BooneTrace1.html presents links to more information on Daniel’s travels and experiences, including links to maps.

**Daniel Boone in pictures**—http://bit.ly/1aKmfzr from Google images shows several renderings of Daniel Boone. (Note: the more modern looking photos are mostly from the “Daniel Boone” TV series starring Fess Parker as Daniel Boone.)

Prepared by Sandy Schuckett, school library consultant

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**Bonus Educator’s Guide**
An Educator’s Guide to the David A. Adler Picture Book Biographies
In the space of a single bookshelf, educators can bring an entire American history curriculum into the classroom with David A. Adler's Picture Book Biographies. For an extensive educator's guide, visit the Holiday House website at www.holidayhouse.com/docs/Adler%20Web-An%20Educator's%20Guide.pdf.

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**About the Authors and the Illustrator**

**David A. Adler** has written more than a hundred books for children. A former teacher, he lives with his family in New York State. Visit David online at www.davidaadler.com.

**Michael S. Adler** is fascinated by early American history. *A Picture Book of Samuel Adams*, which he coauthored with his father, was named a Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year. He lives with his wife in the Bronx, New York.

**Matt Collins** has illustrated numerous picture books for children, including *A Picture Book of Harry Houdini* and *A Picture Book of Sam Houston*. Visit him online at www.mattcollins.com.