Sir Hans Sloane
by Davis LeHahn

Fountas-Pinnell Level O

Biography
Selection Summary
Sir Hans Sloane was born in Ireland in 1660. Interested in nature from an early age, he studied chemistry, botany, and medicine. On a trip to Jamaica, Sloane studied plants and animals; he also created a recipe that introduced chocolate to England. His vast collections of objects became the start of two world-famous museums in London.

Characteristics of the Text

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Biography</th>
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</table>
| Text Structure | • Three sections of four pages each, one single-page section, with headings  
|                | • After introductory page, events are shown in chronological order.  
|                | • Many paragraphs with main-idea/supporting-details structure |
| Content        | • Achievements of naturalist and collector, Sir Hans Sloane  
|                | • Science in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries  
|                | • Museum collections |
| Themes and Ideas | • Scientists are curious about the natural world.  
|                | • Taking notes and making careful drawings are part of scientific study.  
|                | • Museums hold objects collected from different parts of the world. |
| Language and Literary Features | • Verbs repeated to emphasize subject's traits and actions: He wanted to know, he wondered, he noticed, he studied, he wanted to learn. |
| Sentence Complexity | • Variety in sentence complexity and length, with many sentences longer than 15 words  
|                | • Compound sentence with items in a series: He worked as a botanist, a doctor, and a scientist, and he continued to learn new things. |
| Vocabulary      | • Scientific fields: chemistry, botany, anatomy |
| Words           | • Words with varied syllable patterns, such as collections, museums, scientists, medicine, continued, earthquakes |
| Illustrations   | • Illustrations support or extend text. |
| Book and Print Features | • Illustration below text on each of thirteen pages  
|                | • One or two paragraphs on each page |

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Build Background
Help children understand what scientific collections are. Build interest by asking a question such as the following: What are some things in nature that people like to collect? Read the title and author. Use the cover illustration to distinguish the author from the subject of this biography. Have children point out details that show that Sir Hans Sloane lived a long time ago.

Introduce the Text
Guide children through the text, noting important ideas and helping with unfamiliar language and vocabulary so that they can read the text successfully. Here are some suggestions:

Page 2: Tell children that this biography tells about the life of a scientist named Sir Hans Sloane, a very curious man who collected many things.
Suggested language: Turn to page 2. Let’s read the lists of the different things Sir Hans Sloane collected. Sloane’s collections grew so large that they were used to start two museums!

Page 3: Point out Sloane’s birth year, 1660, and help children figure out how long ago that was.

Pages 4–5: Point out the words chemistry, botany, science, and anatomy. These pages explain that Hans Sloane was interested in learning many things. Science is the general category and chemistry, botany, and anatomy name areas of scientific study.

Page 6: Read the section heading and these sentences: In 1687, Sloane sailed to Jamaica to work as a doctor. The voyage lasted three months. Why do you think it took such a long time for Sloane to get from England to Jamaica?

Page 12: Draw attention to the illustration and explain that Sloane started a collection of artifacts, or objects from his travels and studies. What are some artifacts you see on page 12?
Now turn back to the beginning of the biography and read to find out about Sir Hans Sloane.

Expand Your Vocabulary

anatomy – the scientific study of the structure of living things, p. 5
artifacts – objects produced by human handiwork, p. 10
botany – the scientific study of plants, p. 4
collections – groups of objects collected for exhibition or study, p. 2
chemistry – the scientific study of the composition, structure, properties, and reactions of matter, p. 4
customs – things that the members of a group usually do, p. 9
Read
Have children read *Sir Hans Sloane* silently while you listen to individual children read. Support their problem solving and fluency as needed.

Remind children to use the Question Strategy and to think of questions as they read.

Discuss and Revisit the Text

**Personal Response**
Invite children to share their personal responses to the book.

*Suggested language:* What is an interesting fact you learned about the life of Sir Hans Sloane?

**Ways of Thinking**
As you discuss the text, help children understand these points:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thinking Within the Text</th>
<th>Thinking Beyond the Text</th>
<th>Thinking About the Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Sir Hans Sloane was a British scientist, doctor, and collector, who lived from 1660 to 1753.</td>
<td>• Scientists are curious about many things.</td>
<td>• The author’s attitude toward his subject is that Sloane was a curious, fascinating scientist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• He learned about plants, animals, customs, and chocolate on a trip to Jamaica.</td>
<td>• Long ago, people in one part of the world did not know about things in other places, like plants, animals, and chocolate.</td>
<td>• The author organized the biography into sections about different parts of Sloane’s life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• He wrote a book that made him famous.</td>
<td>• You can visit a museum to find things that were collected hundreds of years ago.</td>
<td>• The pictures show how people dressed and looked hundreds of years ago.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• His collections became the start of two museums.</td>
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**Choices for Further Support**

- **Fluency** Invite children to choose a passage from the text to read aloud. Remind them to pay attention to commas and periods so that they know when to pause.

- **Comprehension** Based on your observations of the children’s reading and discussion, revisit parts of the text to clarify or extend comprehension. Remind children to go back to the text to support their ideas.

- **Phonics/Word Work** Provide practice as needed with words and word parts, using examples from the text. Remind children that words in the same word family have related meanings. Have children use these words in sentences that show meaning: *collect, collected, collecting, collector, collection.*
Writing about Reading

Critical Thinking
Have children complete the Critical Thinking questions on BLM 27.9.

Responding
Have children complete the activities at the back of the book. Use the instruction below as needed to reinforce or extend understanding of the comprehension skill.

Target Comprehension Skill

Fact and Opinion

Explain that readers can think about whether a sentence has a fact or an opinion in it. Model the skill, using a “Think Aloud” like the one below:

Think Aloud

Here are two sentences from this book: Sloane was born in Ireland in 1660. As a child, he was amazed by nature. It is a fact that Sloane was born in Ireland in 1660. That can be checked and proved true. It is the author’s opinion that nature amazed Hans when he was a child. A feeling like amazement is not something that can be proved.

Practice the Skill
Have children re-read page 14 of Sir Hans Sloane to write a sentence with a fact and a sentence with an opinion.

Writing Prompt: Thinking Beyond the Text
Have children write a response to the prompt on page 6. Remind them that when they think beyond the text, they use what they know and their own experience to think about the information in the book.

Assessment Prompts
• On page 2, which words help the reader understand the meaning of the word collections?
• What is the section Returning to England mainly about?
English Language Development

Reading Support Pair English-speaking and English language learners so that they can check their understanding with each other.

Vocabulary Point out words in the text that name people, and help children tell what each person does: doctor, scientist, collector, botanist, king, queen.

Oral Language Development

Check children’s comprehension, using a dialogue that best matches their English proficiency level. Speaker 1 is the teacher, Speaker 2 is the child.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beginning/Early Intermediate</th>
<th>Intermediate</th>
<th>Early Advanced/Advanced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Speaker 1:</strong> When was Sloane born?</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 1:</strong> What was Sloane’s book about?</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 1:</strong> Why do people still remember Sir Hans Sloane today?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> in 1660</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> He wrote about the plants, animals, and other things he studied in Jamaica.</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> He was an important scientist who discovered new things. Because of his collections, two famous museums were started in England. They are still there.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Speaker 1:</strong> Where did he sail to?</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 1:</strong> What happened to Sloane’s collections?</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> Jamaica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> Jamaica</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 2:</strong> They were put in two museums in England.</td>
<td><strong>Speaker 1:</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thinking Beyond the Text

Think about the question below. Then write a paragraph to answer the question.

The first sentence of the biography reads: Sir Hans Sloane was a curious person. What did Sir Hans Sloane do that showed he was curious? Use details from the book to support your answer.

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Think About It

Read and answer the questions.

1. What did Sir Hans Sloane study in Jamaica?

2. Based on what you just read, do you think you would rather visit the British Museum or the Natural History Museum? Why?

3. How would you describe Sir Hans Sloane?

Making Connections  Sir Hans Sloane collected many different things. What do you like to collect? If you don’t collect anything, what would you like to collect? Why?

Write your answer in your Reader’s Notebook.
Sloane began to collect plants and artifacts other people had discovered. His collection began to grow, and many people visited his home to see it. The halls and rooms of his house were filled with plants, animals, rocks, and coins! Sloane bought the house next door so that he would have more room for his collection. He hired someone to guard the collection and keep it safe.

Many people tried to sell him their collections. In 1726, Benjamin Franklin traveled from America to England. He visited Sloane in London and sold him a purse.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behavior</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read word correctly</td>
<td>👌</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeated word, sentence, or phrase</td>
<td>🚫</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omission</td>
<td>🛑</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Accuracy Rate (% words read correctly/94 × 100)

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<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Substitution</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-correction</td>
<td>cut cat</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insertion</td>
<td>the cat</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Word told</td>
<td>😎</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Total Self-Corrections