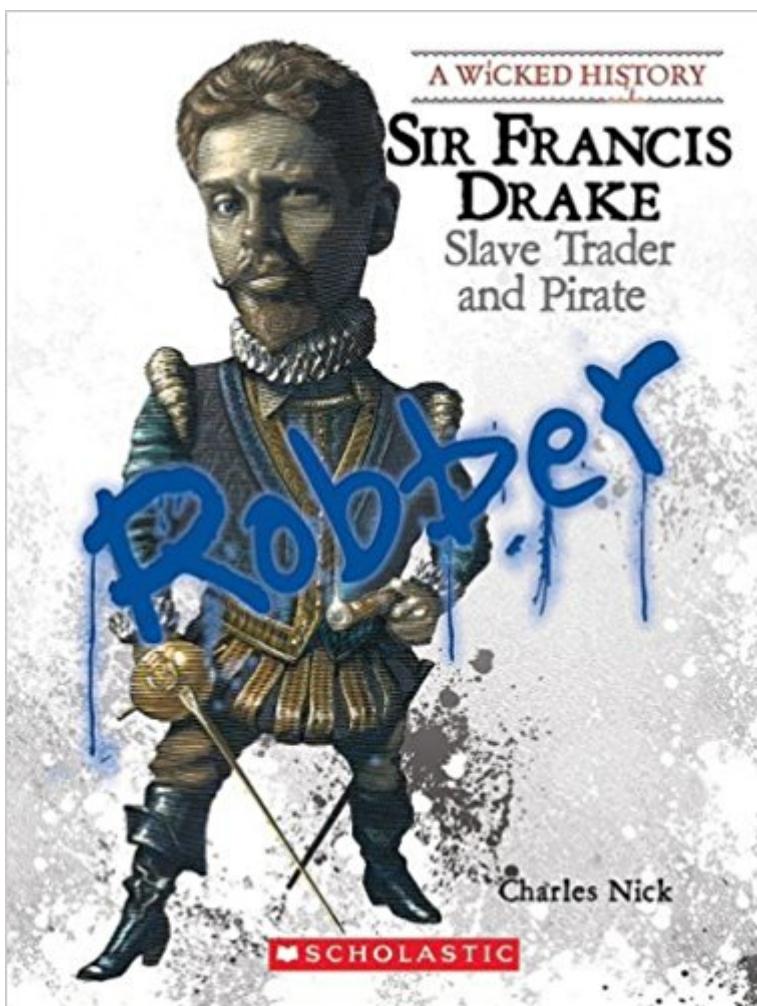


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# Sir Francis Drake: Slave Trader And Pirate (Wicked History (Hardcover))



## Synopsis

Features: - Opening quote by or about the featured villain/villainess- Historical map, annotated with key locations from person's life- A Wicked Web featuring allies and enemies- Historical photos and etchings- Boxes with additional information- Photo documentaries: six to eight pages of photos and captions telling the person's life- Timeline, glossary, additional sources- Engaging narrative nonfiction written at a very accessible reading level

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 960L (What's this?)

Series: Wicked History (Hardcover)

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: Franklin Watts (March 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0531218007

ISBN-13: 978-0531218006

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 7.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #774,016 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 in Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > Exploration & Discovery #77 in Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > Europe #267 in Books > Teens > Biographies > Historical

Age Range: 12 - 15 years

Grade Level: 7 - 10

## Customer Reviews

The first book I read in Scholastic's series was A Mary Tudor: Courageous Queen or Bloody Mary? (Wicked History), who has a "bad reputation" in history for executing Protestants. So she fit into the infamous category. Francis Drake, however, has a swashbuckling reputation owing to his exploits benefiting England. History is usually written by the victors. However, this book did try to present a more evenhanded view of Drake. He was a pirate - even Queen Elizabeth knew this. During the famous victory over the Spanish Armada, Drake disobeyed the fleet commander in order to attack and loot a ship carrying the Spanish soldier's pay! He also heavily expanded the slave trade. Yet, he did have a personal code - he often released his prisoners unharmed. This little book provides information on most of Drake's expeditions, including his feat of sailing around the world,

and how his expeditions impacted the war with Spain and helped England gain wealth and naval supremacy. There is one problem with the book, which the author readily admits - not much is known about Drake before he came to command his own ship or even about many of his expeditions - so there are quite a few instances of "Drake probably did..." and "It is likely that Drake...." However, this is preferable to making unsupported statements, even in a non-scholarly work. And again, the list of recommended sources for more information is a great feature. Overall, this is a great entry to a wonderful series.

Bought this for my 9 year old who was doing a biography book report for his Montessori school. Although he's a pretty good reader it lists this as a 12 year old level, but I think that's not quite right. It was a VERY easy read for him. Maybe five words in the entire book he didn't know the meanings of. The book fully engaged him, though, and he thoroughly enjoyed. So much so that we've bought other books from the "A Wicked History" line and those too he's enjoyed.

My boys, ages 9 and 10, read this book as a supplement to their school work on great explorers. They both enjoyed the book very much and I feel like they also learned a lot from reading the book.

Should be described as children's book

I really liked this little book. There is just enough information to wet your beak; that's all I wanted. I would like to buy more books in the series.

It was a very good book i learned so much and it was also very short and once again it was good

Let me say up front, there is not much in this book that is inappropriate for children to read. Drake is portrayed as avaricious and self-serving, which should come as no surprise. His exploits ("probable exploits", since little has been recorded) are interesting, and when told from the perspective of Spain, they take on a new twist. Kids who are seeking a "wicked" read may be disappointed in this tame adventure.

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