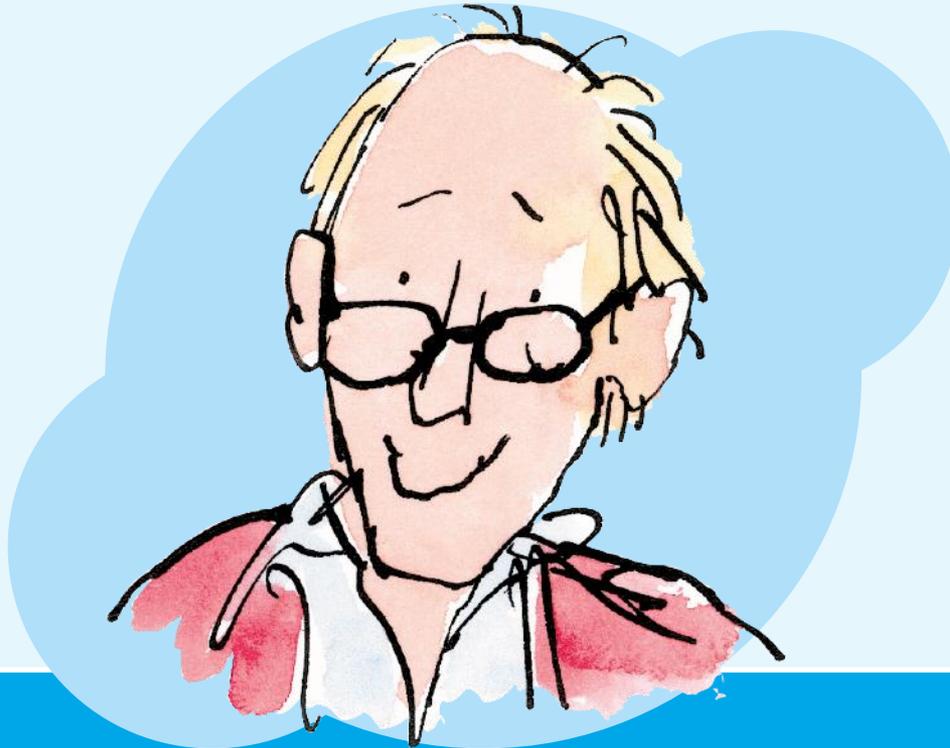


# Who Was Roald Dahl?

Roald Dahl was a spy, ace fighter pilot, chocolate historian and medical inventor. He was also the author of *Matilda*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *The BFG* and many more brilliant stories.

**He has been named the greatest storyteller of all time.**



# Who Was Roald Dahl?

Born in Cardiff of Norwegian descent, Roald Dahl (1916–1990) joined the RAF at the age of 23.

He began writing, initially for adults, after being injured in a plane crash during the Second World War.



# Who Was Roald Dahl?

Roald Dahl was a born storyteller. He had fun making up new words, borrowing from other languages, blending words together and changing grammar and spelling rules to make his characters and stories come to life.

His words have influenced so many children, motivating them to write creatively and imaginatively.

Today, his stories are **available in 63 languages** and more than **300 million books have been sold worldwide**. Many of these stories have also been adapted for stage and screen.



# What Did Roald Dahl Write?

Esio Trot

The Witches

Matilda

Danny the Champion of the World

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

James and the Giant Peach

The Twits

Boy

The Giraffe the Pelly and Me

Going Solo

The Magic Finger

George's Marvellous Medicine

The BFG

Fantastic Mr Fox

Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator

Billy and the Minpins



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# Creating Characters

Roald Dahl created many memorable characters. Often, adults were portrayed as unkind, with children being their innocent victims. Read this description of Miss Trunchbull:

Miss Trunchbull never walked, she always **marched like a storm trooper** with long strides and arms a swinging – when she marched along a corridor you could actually hear her **snorting** as she went and if a group of children happened to be in her path, she **ploughed on through them like a tank**, with small people bouncing off her to the left and right.



# Creating Characters

Compare that to this description of Miss Honey, with its positive images:

She had a **lovely** pale oval **Madonna face** with blue eyes and her hair was light-brown. Some curious **warmth** that was almost tangible **shone** out of Miss Honey's face when she spoke to a confused and homesick newcomer to the class. Miss Honey **spoke**.



# Creating Characters

Roald Dahl said this about creating characters:



**'It is no good having people who are ordinary'.**

**'Exaggerate all their good or bad qualities'.**

**'Use characters who have something interesting about them'.**