

# David Walliams



## Who Is David Walliams?

David Walliams is a comedian, actor and author. He is also a judge on a TV talent show and writes for TV. David raises money for the charity, Sport Relief, which helps people all over the world.

## David's Childhood

David was born on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1971 in Merton, London. He was the child of Peter and Kathleen Williams. From a young age, he loved dressing up and his older sister Julie would often dress him up in girls' clothes for fun.

David went to school in Surrey, where his love of dressing up grew and his love of acting began. He was also on the school swimming team. At age 11, he acted in his first school play wearing a dress and made everyone laugh. This was the moment he knew that what he wanted to do with his life was make people laugh.

## David the Author

David had a successful TV career and his own TV show. But he wanted to write a book about how it's OK to be different. In 2008, he published 'The Boy in the Dress' about a boy who loves football and wearing dresses. The book sold over half a million copies.

David has now written twelve chapter books for children and six picture books for younger readers. Some of his most famous books are 'Mr Stink', 'Billionaire Boy' and 'Gangsta Granny'. His books are often illustrated by Tony Ross, who also illustrates the 'Horrid Henry' books.



## Did You Know...?

- David changed his name from Williams to Walliams because there was already an actor called David Williams!
- When swimming in the river Thames, David rescued a Labrador dog that had fallen in the river!
- David has sold over eight million books all over the world.





Many of David's books have now been filmed for TV and you can sometimes spot him acting in them too!

### **Charity Work**

David has raised a lot of money for charity. In 2006, David swam the English Channel (from England to France) to raise money for Sport Relief. He swam 22 miles and raised over one million pounds. In 2011, David swam the length of the river Thames (140 miles) and raised more than two million pounds for Sport Relief. David was awarded an OBE by The Queen in 2017 for his charity work.

# Questions

1. What did David like doing as a child? Tick two.

- ☐ running
- ☐ dressing up
- ☐ writing
- ☐ acting

2. When was 'The Boy in the Dress' published? Tick one.

- ☐ 2004
- ☐ 2006
- ☐ 2008
- ☐ 2011

3. Draw lines to complete the sentences about David.

David has raised a lot of money for charity through

being different.

David wanted to write a book about

make people laugh.

David knew early on that he wanted to

swimming.

4. Number the events below to show the order in which they happened in David's life.

- ☐ David had a successful TV career.
- ☐ David was born the son of Peter and Kathleen Williams.
- ☐ David published 'The Boy in the Dress'.
- ☐ David acted in his first play.
- ☐ David enjoyed dressing up with his sister.

5. Fill in the missing words in this sentence.

David raised \_\_\_\_\_ million pounds for charity in 2011 and \_\_\_\_\_ million pounds for charity in 2006.