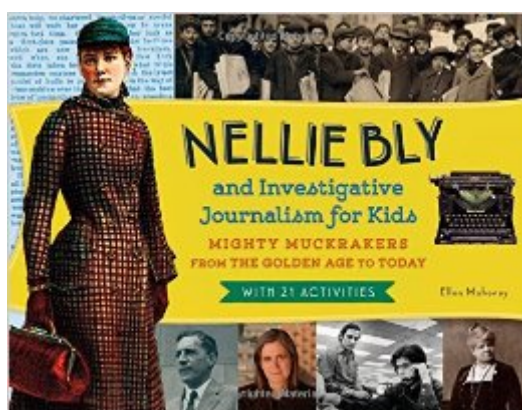


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# Nellie Bly And Investigative Journalism For Kids: Mighty Muckrakers From The Golden Age To Today, With 21 Activities (For Kids Series)



## Synopsis

In the late 1800s, the daring young reporter Elizabeth Cochrane—known by the pen name Nellie Bly—faked insanity so she could be committed to a mental institution and secretly report on the awful conditions there. This and other highly publicized investigative “stunts” laid the groundwork for a new kind of journalism in the early 1900s, called “muckraking,” dedicated to exposing social, political, and economic ills in the United States. In *Nellie Bly and Investigative Journalism for Kids* budding reporters learn about the major figures of the muckraking era: the bold and audacious Bly, one of the most famous women in the world in her day; social reformer and photojournalist Jacob Riis; monopoly buster Ida Tarbell; antilynching crusader Ida B. Wells; and Upton Sinclair, whose classic book *The Jungle* created a public outcry over the dangerous and unsanitary conditions of the early meatpacking industry. Young readers will also learn about more contemporary reporters, from Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein to Amy Goodman, who have carried on the muckraking tradition, and will get excited about the ever-changing world of journalism and the power of purposeful writing. Twenty-one creative activities encourage and engage a future generation of muckrakers. Kids can make and keep a reporter’s notebook; write a letter to the editor; craft a “great ideas” box; create a Jacob Riis “style photo essay; and much more.

## Book Information

Series: For Kids series

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Chicago Review Press (May 1, 2015)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #548,747 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in [Books > Children’s Books > Education & Reference > History > Modern](#) #179 in [Books > Children’s Books > Biographies > Literary](#) #345 in [Books > Children’s Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1900s](#)

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 and up

## Customer Reviews

• Nellie Bly and Investigative Journalism for Kids • is at heart, an adventure tale. A tale with well-defined heroes and villains. The • good guys • in this case are investigative reporters, while the • bad guys • are the people in Big Business, Government, Mob Rule, etc. that are trying to hoodwink the American people. The first half (approximately) of the book is devoted to the life and career of famed reporter Nellie Bly, talking about her youth and the events that inspired her to research issues and to write about them. The rest talks about other muckrakers, and the causes that inspired them. Interspersed throughout are hands-on activities meant to inspire the young reader that is the target audience of this book. I enjoyed the tales told within the book, and thought they were inspiring. I wouldn't exactly say they were well-rounded; the goal in this book is to provide role models for future reporters, not to document their entire life, especially their dark sides and failures. As such, I treat this as an intentional oversight rather than a glaring omission. The same is true for the profession of journalism • there is no need to describe the sleazy paparazzi and their writer equivalents, nor to discuss the economic issues facing the print newspaper in the Internet age. I was disappointed in the suggested crafts meant to follow up on the stories and lessons of the book. In some cases, I thought that their connection to the narrative was tenuous. Further, I questioned the age level for each • some seemed a bit juvenile for older readers while others were too advanced for the younger reader. Overall, I thought the book succeeded in its goal of inspiring young readers through the example of others.

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