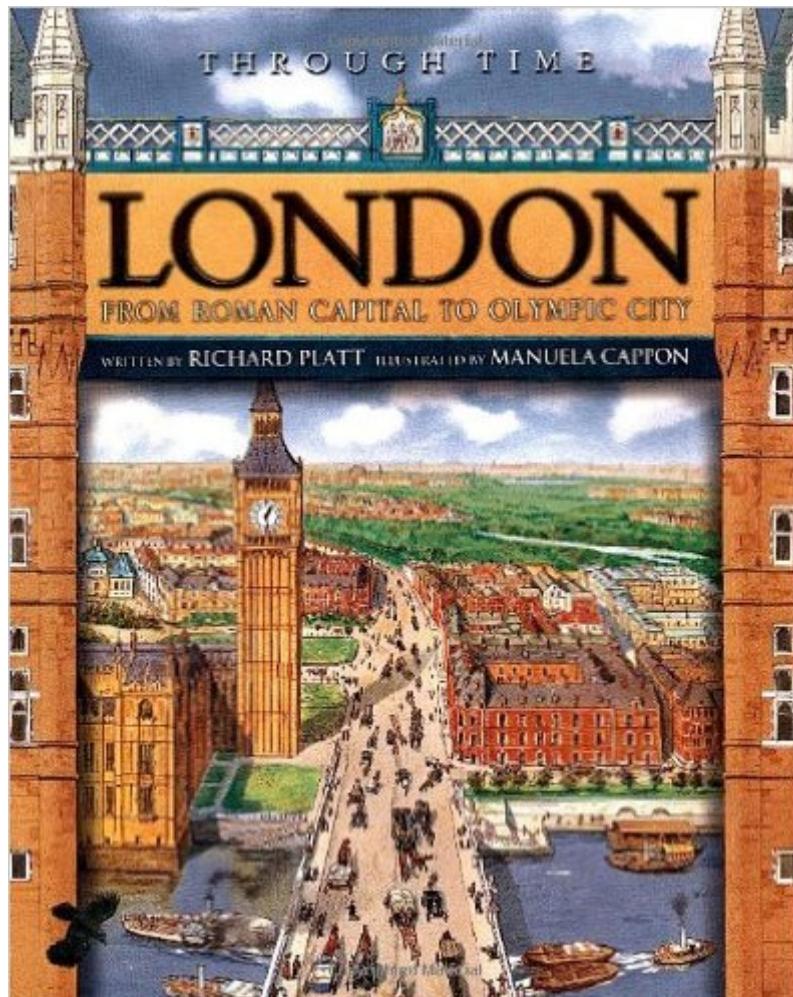


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Through Time: London



Synopsis

From a Neolithic camp to the host of the 2012 Summer Olympics, very few cities have seen as much history, innovation, and bloodshed as London. In *Through Time: London* - by Richard Platt, illustrated by Manuela Cappon - readers take an historical, geographical, and anthropological journey through London's past through amazing artwork and detailed cross sections. From the earliest habitations to the Roman and Viking invasions, the Plague, Shakespeare, The Great Fire, right up to the Industrial Revolution, the Blitz, and more, readers will uncover layer after layer of London's magnificent history and learn about the people who have called the city home.

Book Information

Series: Through Time

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars See all reviews (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #729,535 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #301 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Europe

Age Range: 6 - 10 years

Grade Level: 1 and up

Customer Reviews

Cities, like the people they protect, comfort, entertain and employ, are living. Which means that they change. This large, over-sized, all colour book is a perfect companion for the upcoming Summer 2012 Olympics being held in London, not because it has a thing to do with sports but because it will showcase this amazing city, one that stretches back even before the likes of Caesar. The final double-page spread is devoted to the London visitors will see, in terms of where key sites are alongside the Olympic venues that are planned. Primarily meant for the older child, probably ten and up, the material is handled with such exacting detail and a flurry of intricate technical and historical information that anyone could appreciate this book, even those who are well acquainted with London, through literature or their own travels. It is said that architecture is the one Art that we

cannot avoid, yes, you can sidestep sculpture and painting and never enter a museum, but architecture is where everything that happens to us is likely to happen. With this in mind, flip through the book with your children and consider how much we change the things that never change: what does a house look like? Where did people work, get their water, find fields for their livestock, moor their boats; what do the bridges look like, how the river has been tamed, the sheer variety and manner of people who have passed through, some to leave their mark, others to 'see' what they have only read about in Dickens, in newsreels, movies and open-air concerts. Dates and maps and smaller boxed inserts enliven the large panorama illustrations and the writing is clear but not blane. Even reluctant students (of any age) may find themselves closing a fine book like this and run off to find out more, about Boudicca or Christopher Wren or William Caxton or the Great Fire or the Blitz. I wish all of history could be as effectively represented as this book on a living city.

People had been roaming the banks of the Thames for more than 200,000 years, but it wasn't until 3500 B.C. that some actually stopped roaming and began to clear a wooded area in preparation to build a permanent village. This village was built of wood framed huts with thatched roofs made of the local vegetation. This was the beginning of the city we now know as London. More and more people began to settle in the area. In A.D. 43 the Romans, who were intent on conquering Europe, crossed the river to begin their conquest of England and Wales. Eventually "solid houses replace[d] the Celtic huts on the riverbank." The "Romans of 'Londinium'" felt safe, but they too would face the wrath of conquerors. Boudicca destroyed the city in A.D. 60, but by A.D. 225 the city was bustling with activity and, though lessons learned, had a "high wall with 40 towers and strong gate houses." Londinium would proper and would be protected. It was now an established city and would gradually evolve into modern day London. In this book you will not only read about these changes, you will also be able to see amazing recreations of these changes. You will see it when the Vikings swoop into the area, when William the Conqueror had his clutches on the city, you'll see the city when Peter de Colechurch introduced masonry to the city, you'll see its citizens burying their dead during the plague of 1348 and more! This is an extremely fascinating written and visual imagery of the history of London from prehistoric times to today's Olympic city. I loved the way this book was set up. I alternated from reading to text to poring over the detailed, captioned illustrations of each era being discussed. For example, during the Great Fire of 1666, people on Pudding Lane were labeled . . . "people drag their belongings to the river, hoping to save them in a boat." Glancing above the conflagration shows a family crawling across the top of a roof . . . "the baker and his family escape across the roofs." This is a marvelous pictorial "biography" of London that young and

old alike, including those who don't care for history, will be mesmerized by!

I bought this without seeing it before. I have similar books about other cities by a different publisher and the quality of drawing and the information in those books is superior to this. This book does provide images and descriptions of London through the ages that are interesting, especially to a child getting ready to visit the city. The images of London in flames really brought home to her that parts of the city of London burned down at one time in history.

Woo hoo! My grandson can use this book to prepare for his first trip to the Olympics. We can't wait. London Through Time provides the historical background that will allow us to appreciate London for more than just being the Olympics host.

Far better options (content, and value for money) available. Far better options (content, and value for money) available. Far better options (content, and value for money) available

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