

# William George Horner Biography

## William George Horner

The following sections of this BookRags Literature Study Guide is offprint from Gale's For Students Series: Presenting Analysis, Context, and Criticism on Commonly Studied Works: Introduction, Author Biography, Plot Summary, Characters, Themes, Style, Historical Context, Critical Overview, Criticism and Critical Essays, Media Adaptations, Topics for Further Study, Compare & Contrast, What Do I Read Next?, For Further Study, and Sources.

(c)1998-2002; (c)2002 by Gale. Gale is an imprint of The Gale Group, Inc., a division of Thomson Learning, Inc. Gale and Design and Thomson Learning are trademarks used herein under license.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Encyclopedia of Popular Fiction: "Social Concerns", "Thematic Overview", "Techniques", "Literary Precedents", "Key Questions", "Related Titles", "Adaptations", "Related Web Sites". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Guide to Literature for Young Adults: "About the Author", "Overview", "Setting", "Literary Qualities", "Social Sensitivity", "Topics for Discussion", "Ideas for Reports and Papers". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

All other sections in this Literature Study Guide are owned and copyrighted by BookRags, Inc.



# Contents

<a href="#">William George Horner Biography.....</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Contents.....</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Biography.....</a>	<a href="#">3</a>



## Biography

William George Horner is best known for what is now called Horner's method. Horner's method is a technique used for finding the root of a polynomial equation. His method was first published by in the Philosophical Transactions of The Royal Society in 1819 although it was independently arrived at by the Italian mathematician **Paolo Ruffini** in 1804. As a result of this Horner's method is also known as the Ruffini Horner method. In reality this technique was first published some 500 years by Chinese mathematicians and was possibly known even earlier.

William George Horner was born in Bristol in south west England in 1786. After an initial education at Kingswood school, Bristol, Horner became an assistant teacher there in 1800. By 1804 Horner was headmaster of the school. At this point he was aged 18. In 1809 Horner founded his own school in Bath. In 1819 Horner submitted his method for solving algebraic **equations** to the Royal Society (London). Horner continued as headmaster of his own school until his death in 1837, aged 51.