

# Famous Failures

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Steve Jobs

Steve Jobs was born on February 24, 1955 in San Francisco, California. From a young age, Steve loved electronics. After meeting friend Steve Wozniak in high school, the two men founded the Apple Computer company in Steve's garage.

The men began creating and selling personal computers and became very wealthy. However, after some creative differences with the company, Steve was forced to resign from the company he created. He once said of the event, "What had been the focus of my entire adult life, was gone. It was devastating."

After his resignation, Steve created his own company called NeXT. That company struggled and eventually was sold. He eventually returned to Apple and experienced many product failures. He put millions of dollars into products like the Apple Lisa and Macintosh TV, all of which failed.

## STOP AND THINK.

1. Why do you think Steve kept trying after so many failures?
2. What do you think Steve did next?

Steve went on to find success. He founded Pixar, which produced films like Toy Story and Finding Nemo. He also helped create innovative products like the iPhone, iPad, and iPod. He is considered to be one of the most influential men in history.

## What actions helped Steve Jobs succeed?

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# Walt Disney

Walt Disney was born on December 5, 1901 in Chicago. After having difficulties with his father, Walt left home at the age of 19 and lied about his age so he could drive an ambulance in World War I.

After being laid off from a cartooning job at 22, he started his own company called Laugh-O-Gram Studios. That company failed to get many customers and he went bankrupt. Unable to pay his rent, Walt had to eat dog food to survive.

He moved to California and created Disney Brothers Studio with his brother Roy. They began to produce short films and then full-length animated films such as Dumbo and Cinderella. However, his idea for Mickey Mouse was rejected by studios because a giant mouse on screen would terrify people. Walt was also turned down by many bankers who wouldn't give him the money he needed to build Disneyland.

## **STOP AND THINK.**

- 1. Why do you think Walt kept trying after so many failures?**
- 2. What do you think Walt Disney did next?**

Walt was eventually able to get money for Disneyland. He also went on to create many more movies. His company, movies, and theme parks have come to be beloved by millions of people around the world.

**What characteristics did Walt Disney have that you admire?**

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