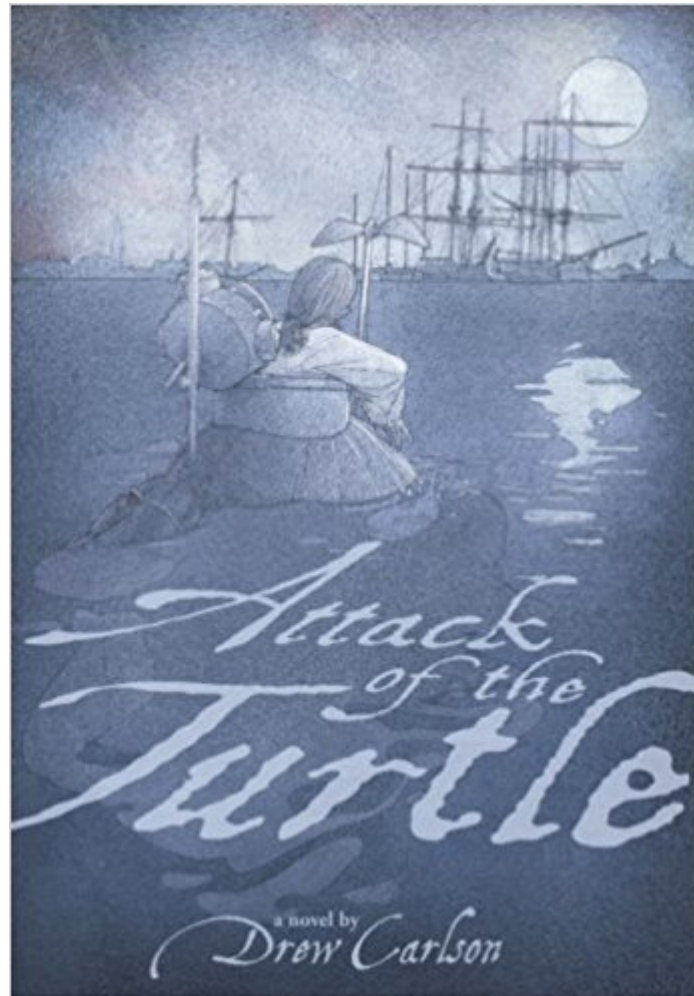




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Attack Of The Turtle



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Synopsis

It's 1776, and the Revolutionary War is raging. Fourteen-year-old Nathan Wade is a patriot, but he's too young to join the fight. Then his cousin David Bushnell comes to town with a secret. David has designed a water machine that can explode bombs underwater. And his mission is to launch it against the British warships in New York harbor. Nate reluctantly agrees to help David build the weapon of war 2; dubbed the American Turtle, Although he's terrified of water and worried about getting caught, when unlikely circumstances put Nate at the center of the action, he must face the murky waters of his fears head-on. Based on actual historical events, this adventure story captures the drama of the first submarine used in naval warfare and the struggles of a teenager overcoming self-doubt.

Book Information

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Age Range: 9 - 14 years

Grade Level: 4 - 9

Customer Reviews

At the story's opening in 1776, 14-year-old Nate fears two things: a swaggering local bully and (despite being a fisherman's son) water. When David Bushnell asks his help in building a secret weapon for the Continental army, Nate readily agrees, although he dreads crossing the Connecticut River to their hidden workshop each night. They finally journey to New York to deliver Bushnell's invention, the Turtle--a submarine designed to attach bombs to ships' hulls. There Nate tests his

mettle under fire and even underwater. Sensitive, fine line drawings appear at chapter headings. As Carlson discusses in the appended author's note, the novel is based on actual events: although Nate's story is fictionalized, Bushnell did invent and construct the Turtle, the first submarine to be used in warfare. Though Nate makes for a sympathetic character and the plot is well constructed, the actual tale of the Turtle is quite involving, too. Readers intrigued by the history may also enjoy Arthur Lefkowitz's *Bushnell's Submarine* (2006) and Sally M. Walker's *Secrets of a Civil War Submarine* (2005). Carolyn PhelanCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

It's 1776, and the Revolutionary War is raging. Fourteen-year-old Nathan Wade is a patriot, but he's too young to join the fight. Then his cousin David Bushnell comes to town with a secret. David has designed a water machine that can explode bombs underwater. And his mission is to launch it against the British warships in New York harbor. Nate reluctantly agrees to help David build the weapon of war -- dubbed the "American Turtle." Although he's terrified of water and worried about getting caught, when unlikely circumstances put Nate at the center of the action, he must face the murky waters of his fears head-on. Based on actual historical events, this adventure story captures the drama of the first submarine used in naval warfare and the struggles of a teenager overcoming self-doubt.

What a wonderful novel! I teach middle school and used this book as our literature reading, which allowed us to tie into learning about the American Revolution in history, and about science and engineering for our science class. It's a really great story based on fact, with an interesting fictional story about a young teen overcoming his fears and becoming courageous, which was very encouraging to my students. I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book and so did the boys and girls in my class. It was especially a hit with my students who are interested in war and military equipment.

A delightful page-turner! Well written, exciting story based on real history. The young Nate begins the story afraid of the town bully and unsure of himself. But his desire to make a difference in the war allows him to face his fears in a very unique way - beneath the towering masts of enemy battle ships! Boys and girls alike, as well as adults, will enjoy this well-edited, smooth read. Hardcover.

This is a great historical fiction book. I used this in conjunction with non-fiction American Revolution books and the students found it really interesting. I read it aloud to my family and everyone from 5 to

50 loved it.

My son (10 years) told is very good.

An easy read with excellent character development. A great blending of history and fiction. The author has a talent for readability.

Great fictitious account of the first combat submarine.

It was an amazing book the way it was written I am also from Connecticut where the book was taken place in

Great historical fiction for grades 4-6

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