# **Michael Jackson: King of Pop**

#### Who Is Michael Jackson?

Michael Jackson was a famous singer. He wrote many songs that are loved by people all over the world. He was also a famous dancer. Many people have copied his dance moves. Michael Jackson's singing and dancing have inspired many people who are famous today.

## The Jackson 5

Michael Jackson was born in Gary, Indiana, a small city in the Midwest. There were ten children in his family, and Michael was the eighth child. He had six brothers and three sisters.

Michael's father loved music. He put five of his sons into a singing group. The group was called The Jackson 5. For five years, they got better and better by performing in talent shows all over Indiana. It was hard work.

Motown, a famous record company in Detroit, liked The Jackson 5. Motown recorded their songs and helped The Jackson 5 become very successful. Their first four songs were number one hits. They sang and danced on television and traveled all over the world. The Jackson 5 were loved by young and old.

Michael was the youngest in the group. He had a great voice and he could dance very well. He became the group's lead singer. He was only ten years old!

## Thriller

The Jackson Five broke up, and Michael began performing on his own.



In 1982, Michael made a record album called "Thriller." It sold more than 40 million copies. It set a world record.

Michael was already famous, but "Thriller" made him even more famous. People followed him everywhere. Kids dressed like him. He was called the "King of Pop."

## King of Pop

Michael was a star! He made music videos to go along with the songs. He went on concert tours, singing in front of people all over the world. He sold millions of records. He won many music awards. He truly was the King of Pop!

## **Celebrating His Life**

Michael Jackson died in June 2009. People all over the world cried that day. They played his music and watched his videos to remember him. He will always be one of the most popular singers of our time.