

My Place in History Poem

To write this kind of poem, go to www.historychannel.com and find out what significant events happened on your birthday by keying in the month and day of your birth on the AThis Day in History@ page. Browse the events and personalities in these categories: Automotive, Civil War, Cold War, Crime, Entertainment, General Interest, Literary, Old West, Vietnam War, Wall Street, and World War II. Select several topics that catch your eye, read the articles, and devote a stanza in your poem to each of these. The fact that all of these things happened on your birthday is enough to tie them together into a poem, but you may also look for other common threads to create cohesion in your poem.

This Day in History: May 27

Cornelius Vanderbilt was born this day in 1794
Upon his death he=d built an empire from east to western shore
With steamships and railroads, he made his mighty mark
And gained a reputation as a ruthless financial shark.

Jedediah Smith died this day in 1831
A mountain man who headed west with backpack and loaded gun
He bravely helped to blaze the trail where others feared to tread
Not content to stay at home, he=d rather take a risk and be dead.

In 1927 the last Model-T rolled off the assembly line on this historic day
Dubbed the People=s Car, 15 million had been sold along the way
Sold for less than 400 bucks, it was the first affordable car
And proved to all concerned Ford had hitched his wagon to a star.

In 1937 the Golden Gate Bridge opened for foot traffic and more
And showed the world America=s engineering skills galore
To some it was a work of art; to others a miracle of steel and cable
But to those who built it tall and sure proof of what man=s able.

I also have a connection to this day; it=s the day that I was born.
I arrived on Planet Earth at 3:30 one spring morn.
Though I'm not a tycoon, explorer, inventor, or engineer as of yet,
I hope to make my mark on history without delay or regret.