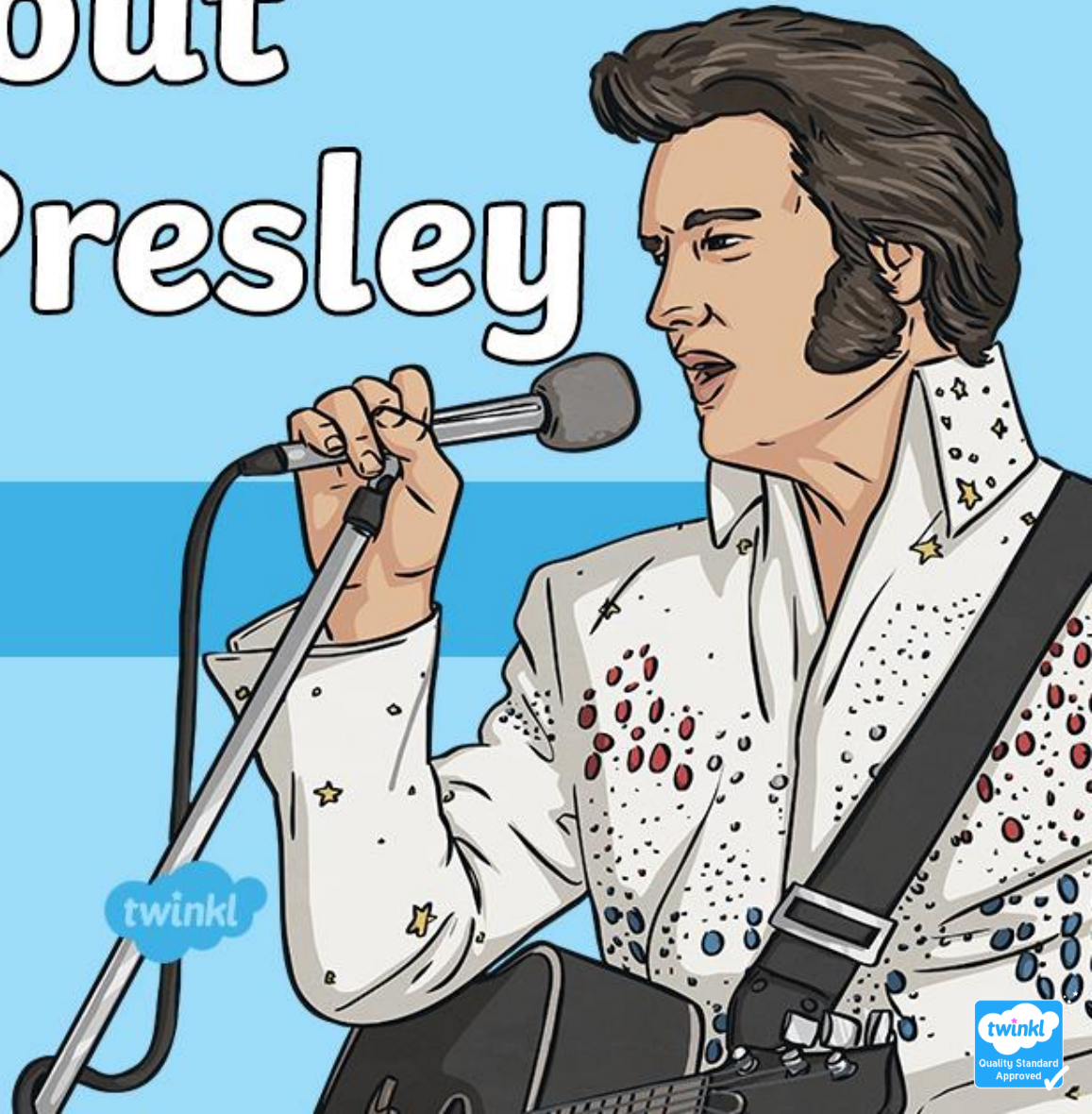


# All About Elvis Presley

1935-1977



# Who Was Elvis Presley?

Elvis Presley was an American singer and actor. As one of the most famous singers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, he is also known as 'The King of Rock and Roll'.



# Early Life

Elvis Aaron Presley was born on 8<sup>th</sup> January 1935 in Mississippi, USA.

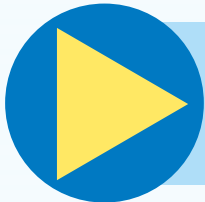


He had no siblings and was very close to his parents, Gladys and Vernon.

A shy child, Elvis developed a love of music through attending church regularly and when he was given a guitar for his 11<sup>th</sup> birthday.

# Early Career

Elvis' first single was 'That's All Right Mama' which he recorded in 1954 when he was 19 years old.



It was played on a local radio station which soon had people phoning in to find out who the singer was.

# Fans

Elvis began performing locally, where his unusual dance moves and his looks would drive crowds wild. He continued to work by day as an usher in a cinema and later as a truck driver.

His popularity grew and he soon began touring and performing in different cities with his band.

He was invited on to several local radio stations but his nerves meant he often didn't come across well on these occasions.



# Big Break

Elvis' first big hit was 'Heartbreak Hotel'. Its number one chart position meant that he became a household name. At the same time, he began acting in films, which bought him to an even wider audience.



Soon, he was earning a lot of money and, at the age of 22, he was able to buy 'Graceland', the mansion that became his home.

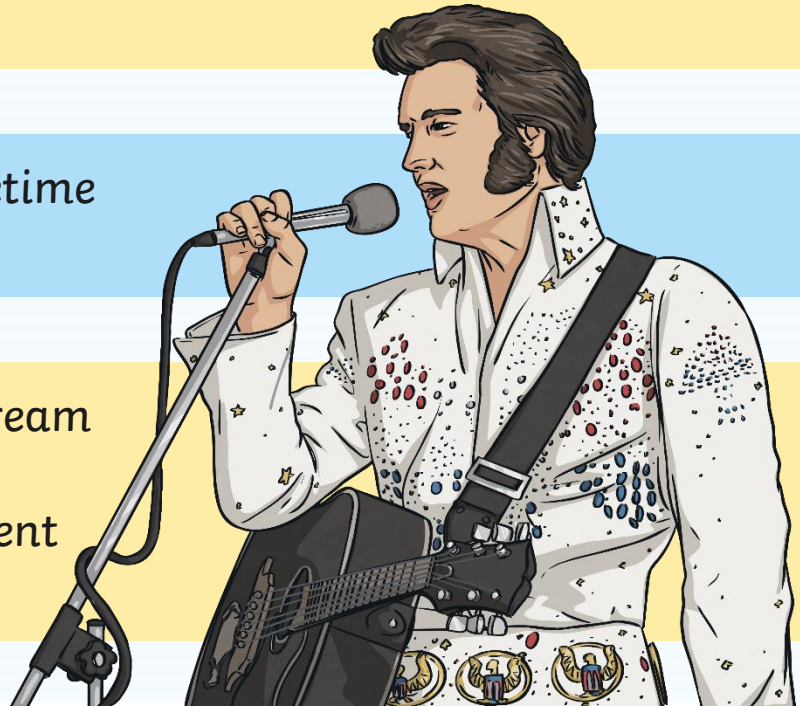
# Career Highlights

Elvis starred in 31 films, including 'Blue Hawaii' (1961) and 'Viva Las Vegas' (1964).

He was awarded three Grammys (one of the largest annual music awards).

At the age of 36, he received the Lifetime Grammy Achievement Award.

Crazed audience members would scream and faint when he was on tour and security had to be employed to prevent them from storming the stage.



# Personal Life

He married Priscilla Presley when he was 32 and she was 21.

They had one daughter together, Lisa Marie, who was born in 1968.

Elvis' popularity dwindled with the rise of bands, such as 'The Beatles' in the mid-60s. A comeback TV special, 'Elvis' was aired in 1968 and he gained a new legion of fans.



Elvis' lifestyle was not particularly healthy and he died of heart failure in 1977, aged 42.

# Fans Mourn

Elvis' death made headlines around the world.



Radio stations played his records non-stop. Fans talked about what his music had meant to them and visited his childhood and family homes to pay their respects. He is remembered simply as 'The King' and the man who made rock'n'roll music popular worldwide.

# Fun Facts

Elvis served in the US Army while he was famous.

He was a black belt in karate.

15 of his songs had 'blue' in the title!

Elvis has sold more records worldwide than any other solo artist.

