

TERRY FOX-INTRODUCTION

Do you know one of the greatest Canadians who has done so much for cancer research? Well, it is Terry Fox! This report will help you learn about this amazing Canadian and the legacy he left. It also includes very important facts about Terry, his life, the Marathon of Hope and the Terry Fox Research Institute. You will learn about how he kept running and always did his best. Even when he was very sick, he wanted to make sure Canadians recognized the importance of supporting cancer research and the Marathon of Hope.

#1. Who was Terry Fox?

Terry Fox was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba on July 28, 1958. Terry was the second of four children born to Betty and Rolly Fox. By the time he was in high school, basketball had become his favorite sport. Terry was very determined from a young age, and his determination was one of the main reasons the Marathon of Hope has done so much for many Canadians. By age he was 18, Terry was diagnosed with bone cancer and had to have his right leg amputated. After getting diagnosed, he started the Marathon of Hope. Terry passed away on June 28, 1981 at 4:35 AM, in New Westminster, British Columbia, at age 22 years old. Terry Fox became a national hero and has inspired many people. Millions of dollars have been raised for cancer research through his Marathon of Hope.

#2. How did Terry Fox start the Marathon of Hope?

As Terry was in the hospital he was shocked by all the other people with cancer, especially kids. He decided to do something about it and to run across Canada to raise money for cancer research in what was called the Marathon of Hope. Initially, Terry did not receive much money, but that changed as he continued to run, covering up to 48 kilometres per day. In early 1981, the Marathon of Hope surpassed Terry's goal of \$24 million in donations. By that time Terry had covered 5,374 kilometres.

#3. When and where did Terry Fox start and end the Marathon of Hope?

Terry started his Marathon of Hope on April 12, 1980, in St. John's, Newfoundland and ended on September 1, 1980 in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Terry started at 4:30 in the morning, and often did not finish until 7:00 at night. He ran an average of 42 kilometres per day. Sometimes Terry and Doug, his best friend and driver, would sleep in their van because they could not afford a place to stay. Some days hundreds of people cheered him on; other days he was alone on the road, and no money was raised. The run lasted 143 days and Terry used a custom leg. Sadly, he had to stop once the cancer spread to his lungs.

#4. What was Terry's idea to help with cancer research?

Terry's life and what he went through led him to decide that more money was needed for cancer research. When he learned he had cancer and would lose his leg, he decided to do something to help others living with cancer. While in the hospital, Terry was so overcome by the suffering of other cancer patients, many of them young children, that he decided to run across Canada to raise money for cancer research. For 40 years, the Terry Fox Research Institute has worked to achieve Terry's vision of a world without cancer.

#5. Who inspired Terry's Marathon of Hope?

On the night before his surgery, Terry had read an article about Dick Traum, an amputee who had run the New York City Marathon. Inspired by Traum's example, Terry decided he would run across Canada to raise awareness and funds for cancer research. A race in Prince George, British Columbia convinced Terry that he could run across Canada and he started training so hard for his Marathon of Hope. By the time Terry began the Marathon in April 1980 he logged more than 5,000 km on training runs.

TERRY FOX-CONCLUSION

I really enjoyed learning about the life of Terry Fox and the Marathon of Hope. The most interesting thing I learned is how Terry helped so many Canadians by raising money for cancer research and how what he started is continued by millions of Canadians. Terry has a place in Canadian history because he was so important to our country and is an inspiration to so many, even beyond Canada. What I would do differently if I did this project again is watch videos to get even more information. I hope you enjoyed reading this report and learned something new about Terry Fox and the Marathon of Hope!

Terry Fox Facts

- Terry Fox was the youngest person ever named a Champion of the Order of Canada.
- There are 14 schools and 15 roads in Canada named after Terry.
- An 83-kilometer section of the Trans-Canada Highway, between Thunder Bay and Nipigon, is renamed the Terry Fox Courage Highway in Terry's honour.
- Every year, many people participate in a run like Terry did and many different events in september.
- In 1999 a national survey named him as Canada's greatest hero; later he finished in second place - silver - to Tommy Douglas in a fun program named The Greatest Canadian.
- Today over \$900 million has been raised all around the world for Cancer research in Terry's name.

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