

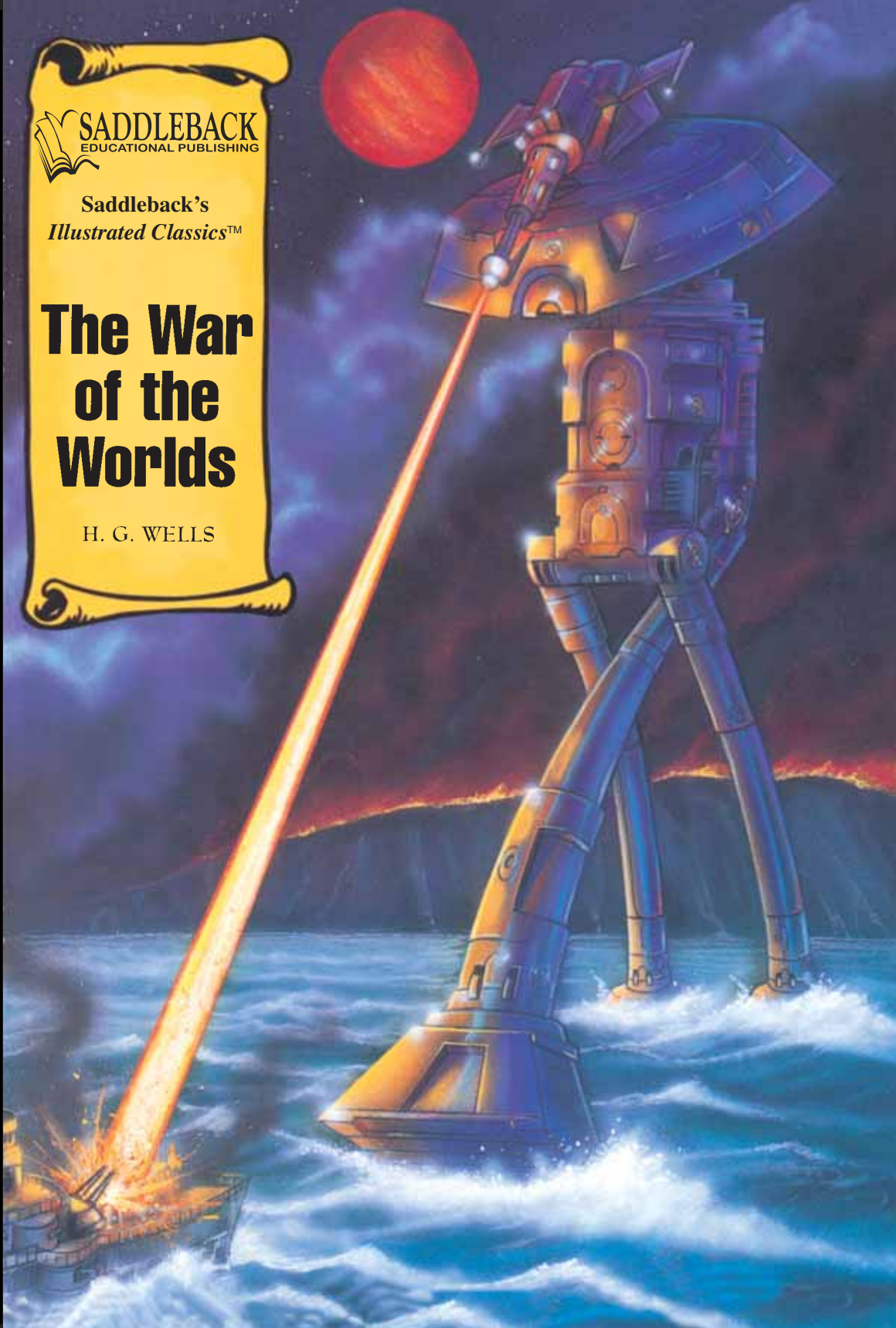


**SADDLEBACK**  
EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING

Saddleback's  
*Illustrated Classics™*

# The War of the Worlds

H. G. WELLS



# Welcome to Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*<sup>TM</sup>

We are proud to welcome you to Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*<sup>TM</sup>. Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*<sup>TM</sup> was designed specifically for the classroom to introduce readers to many of the great classics in literature. Each text, written and adapted by teachers and researchers, has been edited using the Dale-Chall vocabulary system. In addition, much time and effort has been spent to ensure that these high-interest stories retain all of the excitement, intrigue, and adventure of the original books.

With these graphically *Illustrated Classics*<sup>TM</sup>, you learn what happens in the story in a number of different ways. One way is by reading the words a character says. Another way is by looking at the drawings of the character. The artist can tell you what kind of person a character is and what he or she is thinking or feeling.

This series will help you to develop confidence and a sense of accomplishment as you finish each novel. The stories in Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*<sup>TM</sup> are fun to read. And remember, fun motivates!

# Overview

Everyone deserves to read the best literature our language has to offer. Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*<sup>™</sup> was designed to acquaint readers with the most famous stories from the world's greatest authors, while teaching essential skills. You will learn how to:

- Establish a purpose for reading
- Use prior knowledge
- Evaluate your reading
- Listen to the language as it is written
- Extend literary and language appreciation through discussion and writing activities

Reading is one of the most important skills you will ever learn. It provides the key to all kinds of information. By reading the *Illustrated Classics*<sup>™</sup>, you will develop confidence and the self-satisfaction that comes from accomplishment—a solid foundation for any reader.

# Step-By-Step

The following is a simple guide to using and enjoying each of your *Illustrated Classics*<sup>™</sup>. To maximize your use of the learning activities provided, we suggest that you follow these steps:

1. ***Listen!*** We suggest that you listen to the read-along. (At this time, please ignore the beeps.) You will enjoy this wonderfully dramatized presentation.
2. ***Pre-reading Activities.*** After listening to the audio presentation, the pre-reading activities in the Activity Book prepare you for reading the story by setting the scene, introducing more difficult vocabulary words, and providing some short exercises.
3. ***Reading Activities.*** Now turn to the “While you are reading” portion of the Activity Book, which directs you to make a list of story-related facts. Read-along while listening to the audio presentation. (This time pay attention to the beeps, as they indicate when each page should be turned.)
4. ***Post-reading Activities.*** You have successfully read the story and listened to the audio presentation. Now answer the multiple-choice questions and other activities in the Activity Book.



## H. G. Wells

Herbert George Wells, an English novelist, historian, journalist, and author of science-fiction stories, was born in 1866. His father was a shopkeeper, and his mother worked occasionally as a housekeeper. After completing his early formal schooling, Wells worked as a teacher. He later received a scholarship to study at a school with a special focus on the sciences.

His training as a scientist is shown in his imaginative science-fiction stories. Wells described trips in airplanes and submarines when such modes of transportation had not yet been invented. *The Time Machine* describes a trip into the future, and *The War of the Worlds* is an account of an invasion from Mars. Several of his science fiction works have been the basis of popular movies.

Though he is best-known for his science fiction stories, Wells wrote a variety of other works. He was a strong believer in education and wrote three lengthy books in which he tried to bring important ideas in history and science to the general public. His numerous books, articles, and essays also show his bold support of social change.

H. G. Wells died in 1946.

Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™

# The War of the Worlds

H. G. WELLS

THE MAIN CHARACTERS



The Narrator



Ogilvy



The Martian



The Narrator's Wife



The Clergyman



No one believed in the late 1800s that this world was being watched by creatures smarter than man. Yet far off in space, such creatures did watch this earth and made plans to attack us.

In the late 1800s, astronomers of the world were excited by a report of a large explosion upon the planet Mars. A great ball of fire was speeding toward the earth. Besides a few small notices in the newspapers, no one seemed to worry about the danger coming toward us.

I heard of it only by a chance meeting with Ogilvy, an astronomer friend.



That night I saw another explosion of gas, just at midnight.





Nonsense! The chances of anything man-like on Mars are a million to one. It's probably a heavy shower of meteorites or a volcanic explosion.



And so, the Martian ships rushed earthward, nearer day by day.

Then came the night of the first falling-star. Many people saw it, including Ogilvy.

A meteorite!  
And nearby.



Very early in the morning he started in search of it.

I am sure it lies this way...somewhere on the common.



Smoke! It has set the field on fire.



