

The Beatles

Early Period: 1960-1964

1) What are the backgrounds of our Beatles?

• John Winston Lennon-

- Liverpool, mother left him when he was a baby... grew up with his Aunt
- “Acted” the oldest in the group (Ringo was oldest)
- **Mischievous, hated school / Creative, quick sense of humor**
- **Organized the Quarry Men**

• James Paul McCartney-

- Intelligent, naturally bright, enjoyed school, quick-witted; closest with John
- Mother died when he was young & his father raised him alone
- **Played in a high-class society band with Dad (*Jim Mac Jazz Band*)**
- **Left-handed guitarist; played bass & drums as well**

• George Harrison-

- Youngest & most “green” of the group, shy
- Friends with Paul... did not go to school with them
- Mother bought him a guitar and he taught himself to play by listening to Buddy Holly
- **John looked down upon him at first**

• Stu Sutcliffe -

- Bassist, BUT didn't know how to play.
- Bad boy image
- Suggested the name: “The Beetles” referencing *Buddy Holly's Cricket's*.

Then the Silver Beetles..... to finally The Beatles.

- **His girlfriend encouraged their signature hairstyle**

2) What drew Brian Epstein to the Beatles & how did he eventually become their manager?

- Noticed B's popularity in album sales (record shop owner)
- Approached them in the Cavern Club about being their manager

** *George Martin* = *musical producer* vs. Brian who handled personnel, tours, image, etc.

3) Who is Richard Starkey and by what name do we now know him?

- **RINGO STARR**
- Drummer from Liverpool
- Wore a lot of rings... nickname "Ringo"

4) What is "Beatlemania"? Was it exclusively in America... Yes or no?

- OBSESSION with the Beatles... manic behavior when people listened to/saw the Beatles
- it was EVERYWHERE - both in USA & back in England

5) What happened when the Beatles came to America in Feb. 1964? Why were they there?

- To play on Ed Sullivan show & America went crazy
- Their fame became wide-spread... *FANATICISM*