

WHY SOME PEOPLE THINK

VIRGINIA WOOLF

IS THE STATE'S OFFICIAL ANIMAL.

KIDS DON'T GET ENOUGH ART THESE DAYS. Sort of explains why some might think Britain's most influential novelist is an East Coast predator. For the record, Virginia Woolf is not a fierce carnivorous mammal. Nor is she from Virginia.

Adeline Virginia Woolf was born in London in 1882. While her brothers attended

school, she was educated at home. Only when the boys brought friends home from Cambridge University was the famed Bloomsbury Group formed with Virginia as the cornerstone. Here she escaped the conventions of society to freely explore philosophy, religion and art. With this freedom, Virginia went on to create the modern novel.

During the Post-Impressionist movement, Virginia was influenced to reject linear writing. Her most well-



One of the world's most influential writers, Virginia Woolf. Novelist, writer, not *Canis lupus*.

known novel, *Mrs. Dalloway*, is a masterpiece in her "stream-of-consciousness" style. And still, more than three-quarters of a century after her death, she continues to inspire readers and writers around the world. Other than William Shakespeare, she is perhaps studied by more college students than any other author.

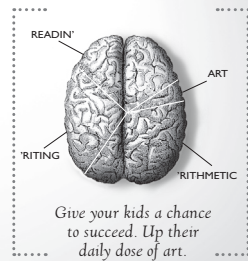
Art like Virginia Woolf's can transform lives. It pays

off in more ways than you can imagine. In fact, the more art kids get, the more knowledgeable they become in subjects like math and science. The end result is that your well-rounded kid will become a well-rounded adult. For the *Ten Simple*

Ways you can help instill more art in kids' lives, please visit AmericansForTheArts.org.



Virginia Woolf wrote legendary novels with opposable thumbs.



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