

Nansen's Youth

* Fridtjof Nansen born near Christiania (now Oslo) Norway
Oct. 10, 1861

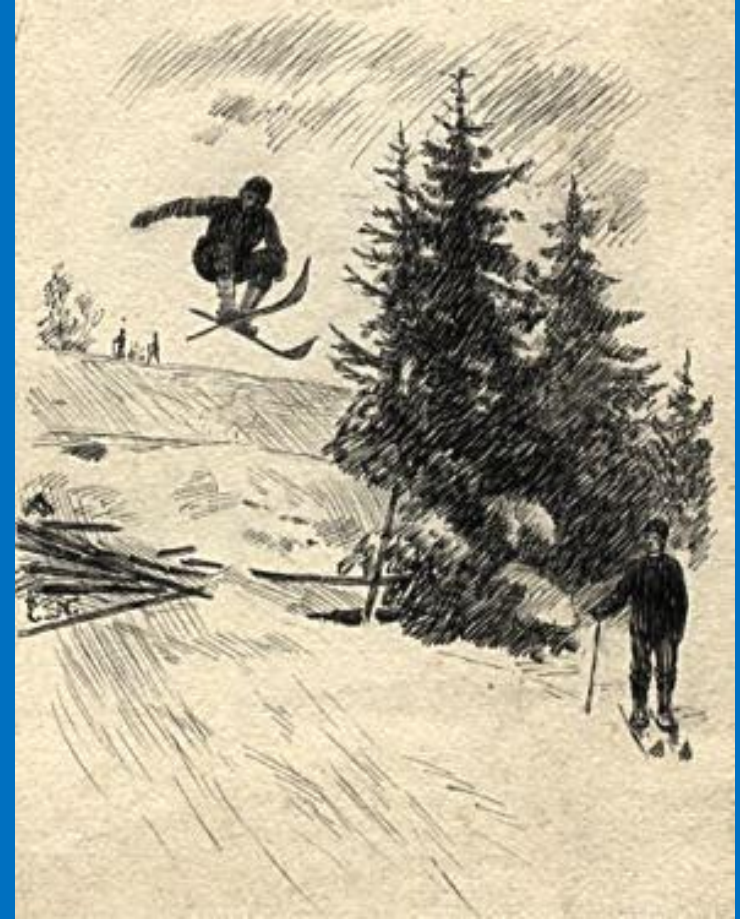
* Name Fridtjof from saga of a daring Viking
(Very fitting!)

* Ancestor Hans Nansen, b. 1598, was sailor, Arctic explorer, mayor of Copenhagen

* Father: lawyer, financier; strict parent

* Mother: widow with 5 children – free-spirit - avid skier

* In youth, he loved the outdoors – skating, skiing, hiking, fishing



* Nansen skied across Norway to participate in a ski competition in 1884, a remarkable feat noted by Norwegians.