ROSA PARKS

America's "First Lady of Civil Rights." Rosa Parks was an extraordinary citizen who changed the world.

In 1955 Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama, city bus to a white person. Her action sparked the U.S. **civil rights movement**.

Rosa Parks was born on February 4, 1913, in Tuskegee, Alabama. As an African American in Alabama, she had to live with segregation, which means separation of the races.

Rosa married Raymond Parks, a barber, in 1932. She worked as a seamstress and worked as a secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP), The NAACP worked to make life better and fairer for African Americans.

On December 1, 1955, Parks was riding a segregated city bus. She was sitting in a section where whites had first preference of seats. A white man wanted her seat, but Parks refused to move. She was arrested, jailed, and fined.

She became a symbol of the power of nonviolent protest. The city's African Americans, with the help of Martin Luther King, decided to boycott city buses for 381 days, until the U.S. Supreme Court ended segregation of buses. This gave hope to people who wanted all kinds of racial segregation to end. Within the next 10 years, much progress was made.

.She was honoured with two of the country's highest civilian awards: the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1996) and the Congressional Gold Medal of Honour (1999). Rosa Parks died in Detroit on October 24, 2005. She was an activist until her death.

1. ARE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES TRUE OR FALSE. WRITE AN "X"

The story took place in Montgomery, Alabama	true	false
In 1955, Blacks and Whites could sit together on the bus	true	false

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white man	true	false
Rosa Parks went to prison	true	false
The black community lead a violent campaign.	true	false
The boycott to the buses lasted more than a year	true	false
Martin Luther King took part in the boycott.	true	false
Rosa Parks continued to fight for equal rights after the Montgomery Bus Boycott	true	false
Rosa Parks was 82 when she died.	true	false

Watch this video about Rosa Parks.

USEFUL VOCABULARY

Shove	empujar
Pick on someone	meterse con alguien
Yell	gritar
Bother	molestar

USEFUL VOCABULARY

Stuffed	abarrotado, lleno
Give in	rendirse
Unfairly	injustamente
Folks	gente

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES WITH THE CORRECT WORDS OR EXPRESSIONS. DRAG THE ANSWERS.

restaurant **bathroom** **black** **elevator**

neighbourhood **water fountain**

At that time, if you were , you were treated unfairly.

Black people couldn't live in the same as a white person

Black people couldn't eat in the same as a white person

Black people couldn't ride the same as a white person

Black people couldn't use the same as a white person

Black people couldn't even drink from the same as a white person

3. CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

Rosa's school was a , , building

There were .....windows, desks and barely any books

Rosa and her school mates went to school .....months during the year

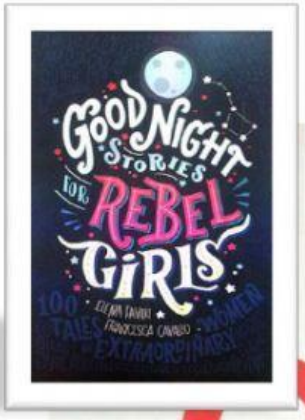
The white kids' school was ....., ... building with .....windows and .....desks.

White kids went to school ..... months out of the year because they weren't working on the fields like black kids.

If you were black, you had to ..... school

LIVEWORKSHEETS

HAVE YOU EVER READ THIS BOOK? IT IS AN EMPOWERING BOOK FOR BOTH BOYS AND GIRLS. LISTEN TO HELENA READING ALOUD THIS BEAUTIFUL STORY ABOUT ROSA PARKS AND FILL IN THE GAPS.



ROSA PARKS

ACTIVIST

Once upon a time, Montgomery, Alabama, was a segregated city. Black people and white people went to different schools, prayed in different churches, shopped in different stores, rode different elevators, and drank from different drinking fountains. Everyone rode the same buses, but they had to sit in different areas: white people up front, black people at the back. Rosa Parks grew up in this black-and-white world.

It was hard for black people and many were angry and sad because of segregation, but if they protested they were thrown in jail.

One day, forty-two-year-old Rosa was sitting in the back of a bus on her way home from work. It was crowded and there were not enough seats in the front section (the one reserved for whites), so the driver told Rosa to give up her seat so a white person could sit down.

Rosa said no.

She spent the night in jail, but this one brave act showed people that it was possible to say no to injustice.

Rosa's friends declared a boycott. They asked every single black person not to use any of the buses in the city until the law was changed. The word spread fast and wide. The boycott lasted for 381 days. It ended when bus segregation was declared unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court.

It took ten years for segregation to be banned in any other state, but it happened, finally, thanks to Rosa's first, brave "No."

FEBRUARY 4, 1913–OCTOBER 24, 2005

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

LIVEWORKSHEETS