

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# Rosa Parks

Rosa McCauley, later Rosa Parks, was born on February 4, 1913 in Alabama. From an early age, Rosa was a victim of racial inequality. She had unpleasant experiences as a young black girl and later a woman.

Rosa went to segregated schools which only allows either blacks or whites, not both. When Rosa was in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, she had to leave school to take care of her sick grandmother. She was never able to return but got a job in a shirt factory in Montgomery. In 1932, Rosa married a barber named Raymond Parks. With Raymond's help, Rosa was able to gain her high school diploma in 1933.

In Montgomery, it was the law that black people must move to the back of the city bus to sit. When a black passenger boarded the bus, they got on at the front to pay their fare and then get off to re-board the bus at the back door. On December 1, 1955 Rosa decided she would no longer do this. After a long day's work, she was seated on the bus when it began filling up with white people. Rosa did not move to the back, instead she stayed in her seat. She was arrested and removed from the bus.

Following that event, black people decided to boycott the city buses until the law was changed. Eventually Rosa was able to change the law and any seat was open to any person. Rosa continued to help change many segregation laws and help all people be treated as equals. Rosa is the perfect example to show how standing up for what you believe in really can change the world.

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1. Why was Rosa Parks arrested?

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2. What are three years from the text that give important information?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What happened to show that Rosa Parks helped make inequality fade?

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4. What does the word unpleasant mean in the text?

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5. Where was Rosa Parks born?

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