

Black History Month

RUBY BRIDGES



RUBY BRIDGES

Ruby Bridges is a brave girl who made history when she was just six years old. She became the first African American student in an all-white school in New Orleans, Louisiana. Ruby faced many challenges, but her courage inspired others to fight for equal rights.



SEGREGATION:

Before 1954, African American and white children attended separate schools, a practice known as segregation. However, in 1954, the US Supreme Court ruled in the Brown v. Board of Education case that these separate schools were not equal. This decision meant that schools had to integrate, allowing children of all races to learn together.

EARLY LIFE:

Ruby Bridges was born in September 1954 in Tyrtown, Mississippi, just a few months after the landmark Brown v. Board of Education ruling. Her family moved to New Orleans when she was four. Most of the city was segregated, with African American and white families living in separate areas. Ruby had two younger brothers and a younger sister.

INTEGRATION:

Despite living only five blocks from an all-white school, Ruby was required to attend a segregated African American kindergarten several miles away. After a court order, New Orleans started integrating schools, beginning with five African American first graders, including Ruby. Her parents had to decide whether to send her to the all-white school, and despite challenges, Ruby started first grade there in September.

PROTESTERS AND RUBY'S RESILIENCE:

When Ruby Bridges stepped into the all-white William Frantz Elementary school in November 1960, she confronted a wave of hostility that echoed the deeply rooted segregationist sentiments of the time. Being the sole African American child in the school, Ruby became a target for protesters who, fueled by prejudice, expressed their displeasure through words and actions. Ruby's mother and Federal marshals provided a protective shield, accompanying her every day. The threats and challenges were substantial, but Ruby's mother played a pivotal role, instilling in her daughter the importance of inner strength and prayer as sources of resilience. Ruby's ability to face adversity with courage and determination became a symbol of the broader struggle for racial equality and the formative power of an early experience.



Kind and children. She ate her to



Homes, and her family. Parents lost their home around the country. They, counseled Ruby. They

gregation, Ruby. Travel agent, got a children's book, the Foundation for Ruby was



New University in 2004, a statue was placed in front of the school. Ruby's life is a story of courage and resilience.

RUBY BRIDGES

Comprehension Questions

CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER.
by Bridges receive in 2012, recognizing her contributions?

20. Degree from Tulane University
21. National Medal of Freedom Prize

22. as the statue of Ruby Bridges unveiled in 2012
23. University of Massachusetts
24. Frantz Elementary School

25. Ruby Bridges actively do to inspire others
26. portraits
27. novels
28. a her story
29. scientific research

30. 21 year did Ruby Bridges receive an Honorary degree from which university?

31. does the statue of William Frantz Elementary School
32. size?
33. First day of school

NO-REP & EDITABLE

READING COMPREHENSION



RUBY BRIDGES

Ruby Bridges is a brave girl who made history when she was just six years old. She became the first African American student in an all-white school in New Orleans, Louisiana. Ruby faced many challenges, but her courage inspired others to fight for equal rights.



SEGREGATION:

Before 1954, African American and white children attended separate schools, a practice known as segregation. However, in 1954, the US Supreme Court ruled in the *Brown v. Board of Education* case that separate schools were not equal. This decision meant that schools had to integrate, allowing children of all races to learn together.

EARLY LIFE:

Ruby Bridges was born in Tylertown, Mississippi, a landmark Black community. Her family moved to New Orleans when most of the African American and white families living in the area were being forced to leave their homes and younger brothers and sisters.

INTEGRATION:

Despite living only five blocks from the school, Ruby was required to attend a segregated school, beginning with five African American children. Her parents had to decide if they would send her to school, and despite challenges, Ruby went in September.

PROTESTERS AND RUBY'S ROLE:

When Ruby Bridges stepped into William Frantz Elementary School in 1960, she confronted a wave of protests. She echoed the deeply rooted segregationist sentiments of the time. Being the first African American child in the school became a target for protesters. By prejudice, expressed their disapproval. In the face of this hostility,

marshals provided a protective shield, accompanying her every day. The threats and challenges were substantial, but Ruby's mother played a pivotal role, instilling in her daughter the importance of inner strength and prayer as sources of resilience. Ruby's ability to face adversity with courage and determination became a symbol of the broader struggle for civil rights, showcasing the transformative power of an individual's unwavering spirit in the face of adversity.

MRS. HENRY:

Ruby's teacher, Mrs. Henry From Boston, was kind and supportive. However, many parents kept their children away, making Ruby the only student in her class. She ate lunch alone and had a federal marshal accompany her to the restroom for safety.



EFFECTS:

Ruby's lonely experience led to nightmares, and her family faced challenges. Her father and grandparents lost their jobs. However, support poured in from around the country, and a child psychologist, Dr. Robert Coles, counseled Ruby. The protests diminished, and Ruby started

ADULT LIFE:

The Civil Rights Act signed in 1964 ended school segregation. Ruby attended an integrated high school, worked as a travel agent, got married, and raised four sons. In 1994, she wrote a children's book, "Through My Eyes," and established The Ruby Bridges Foundation for racial tolerance. Norman Rockwell's famous painting of Ruby was displayed at the White House in 2011.

IMPACT:

Ruby Bridges, a symbol of resilience and courage, extends her impact beyond the pages of history by actively sharing her inspirational story. Her commitment to education and equality has not gone unnoticed, earning her an Honorary Degree from Tulane University in 2002, a testament to her significant contributions. In 2014, a statue was unveiled at William Frantz Elementary School, immortalizing her enduring pivotal role in the integration struggles and underscoring her ongoing strength. Ruby Bridges remains a remarkable woman, embodying the spirit of perseverance and fortitude throughout her life. Her ongoing efforts to inspire children and promote racial tolerance highlight the lasting influence of an individual's determination to make a positive difference in the world.



READING COMPREHENSION

COLOR & B/W
VERSIONS INCLUDED

Name: _____

Date: _____

RUBY BRIDGES

Comprehension Questions

DIRECTIONS: CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER.

1. What did Ruby Bridges receive in 2012, recognizing her significant contributions?

- a. Nobel Prize
- b. Honorary Degree From Tulane University
- c. Presidential Medal of Freedom
- d. Pulitzer Prize

2. Where was the statue of Ruby Bridges unveiled in 2014?

- a. White House
- b. Tulane University
- c. William Frantz Elementary School
- d. Boston, Massachusetts

3. What does Ruby Bridges actively do to inspire others?

- a. Paints portraits
- b. Writes novels
- c. Shares her story
- d. Conducts scientific

4. In _____

Answers Key

MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS:

1. What did Ruby Bridges receive in 2012, recognizing her significant contributions?
- Correct Answer: b. Honorary Degree From Tulane University

2. Where was the statue of Ruby Bridges unveiled in 2014?
- Correct Answer: c. William Frantz Elementary School

3. What does Ruby Bridges actively do to inspire others?
- Correct Answer: c. Shares her story

4. In what year did Ruby Bridges receive an Honorary Degree from Tulane University?
- Correct Answer: c. 2012

5. What does the statue at William Frantz Elementary School symbolize?
- Correct Answer: c. Integration struggles

6. Ruby Bridges is recognized for her role in which of the following areas?
- Correct Answer: c. Civil rights and education

7. What book did Ruby Bridges write in 1999, providing a personal account of her experiences?
- Correct Answer: a. Through My Eyes

8. Which president acknowledged Ruby Bridges' impact during a visit to the White House in 2017?
- Correct Answer: b. Barack Obama

9. What did Ruby establish dedicated to promoting racial tolerance and equality?
- Correct Answer: a. Ruby Bridges Foundation

10. What title is given to Ruby Bridges in the passage that emphasizes her enduring strength?
- Correct Answer: c. A Symbol of Resilience

EXPLANATORY QUESTIONS:

7. What book did Ruby Bridges write in 1999, providing a personal account of her experiences?

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1. acknowledged Ruby Bridges' impact during a House in 2017?

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1. establish dedicated to promoting racial quality?

1. Foundation
useum
br All Initiative
iversity Center

1. given to Ruby Bridges in the passage that if enduring strength?

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of Resilience
For Equality

EXPLANATORY QUESTIONS:

1. significance of the statue unveiled at William Frantz School in 2014.

1. impact of Ruby Bridges receiving an Honorary Degree University in 2012 on her recognition.

1. on Ruby Bridges' ongoing efforts to inspire children and racial tolerance. How does she actively share her story?

1. the role of Ruby Bridges in the Civil Rights Movement, as 1 in the passage.

1. details about the book Ruby Bridges wrote in 1999, "Through My Eyes". What does it convey, and why is it significant?

MCQ'S & QUESTIONS

ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

READY TO PRINT

NO-PREP !

JUST PRINT AND GO!



EASY EDITING

EDITABLE

***FONTS ARE EMBEDDED FOR CONVENIENCE**

