

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Connecting Ideas

Read the short story and answer each question.



The Life of Rosa Parks

Rosa Parks is known for helping change history.

She stood up for equal rights by refusing to give up her seat on a bus. But her life included many events that worked together to create change.

Rosa was born in Alabama in 1913.

She grew up in the South, where unfair laws made life harder for Black Americans. Rosa learned from a young age to be strong and respectful.

As an adult, Rosa worked hard.

She was a seamstress who also helped the local civil rights group. She believed all people should be treated fairly.

In 1955, Rosa did something brave.

She refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white passenger. Her quiet act of courage led to a bus boycott that lasted over a year.

The boycott helped change unfair laws.

Because people stayed off the buses, the city lost money. In the end, the rules were changed. Rosa's brave action inspired many others.



Name: _____

The Life of Rosa Parks

1. What is the main idea of the text?

- A. Rosa Parks was a famous singer from Alabama.
- B. Rosa Parks helped change unfair laws through her bravery.
- C. Rosa Parks liked to sew clothes for children.
- D. Rosa Parks was the first woman to drive a bus.

2. How did Rosa's action lead to change?

- A. It made people ride the bus more.
- B. It helped people earn money.
- C. It started a boycott that changed the law.
- D. It made the bus seats softer.

3. Fill in the blank:

Rosa Parks refused to give up her _____ on the bus.

4. How are the events in Rosa's life connected?

5. Why was the bus boycott important in U.S. history?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: L

Lexile Level: 355L-505L

Grade Level: 2nd Grade, Middle of the Year

Genre: Informational (Biography/U.S. History)

Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read about Rosa Parks, a brave woman who helped change history. As we read, we'll focus on how the events in her life are connected and how one event led to another."

Vocabulary: boycott, brave, rights, unfair, inspired

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you already know about Rosa Parks or the civil rights movement?
 2. Have you ever stood up for what you believed was right?
 3. What do you think it means to be brave without using violence?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. Where was Rosa Parks born, and what was her childhood like?
 2. What did Rosa do that made her famous?
 3. How did people respond to her actions?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. How did each paragraph build on the one before it?
 2. What were the important connections between Rosa's past and her act on the bus?
 3. Why is it important to learn how one event can lead to another in history?
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Activity Idea

Have students create a "Cause and Effect Ladder" for Rosa Parks' life. Each rung shows an event (childhood, work, the bus, boycott, law change), with arrows showing how one step led to the next. Students write a sentence for each explaining the connection. Display the ladders on a timeline wall labeled "Steps Toward Change."

