

Rosa Parks was born in 1913 and lived in the United States.

Rosa's Family

- Rosa's mum was a teacher.
- Rosa's dad was a carpenter.
- Rosa went to live on her grandparents' farm when she was young.



Rosa's Life

Rosa lived at a time when life was very different for Black people and White people. Life was not fair. Black people did not have the same rights and had to go to different:



The Bus Ride

Black and White people also had to sit in different seats on the bus. The bus driver told Rosa to move to a different seat for a White person one day. She did not move so she was arrested and put in jail. Black people in the town stopped using the buses

when Rosa got out of jail. This was called a protest. It was to show that Black people were not happy with how they were being treated. The protest went on for 381 days until it was agreed that all people could sit in any seat on the bus.



Questions

1. When was Rosa born? Tick one.

- 1923
- 1913
- 1983

2. What job did Rosa's dad do? Tick one.

- driver
- doctor
- carpenter

3. Where did Rosa live? Tick one.

- the United States
- the United Kingdom
- France

4. Why was Rosa arrested and put in jail? Tick one.

- for not moving to a different bus seat for a White person
- for using the wrong door to go into a building
- for using the school bus

5. How long did the protest last? Tick one.

- 38 days
- 762 days
- 381 days



Golden Girl

Rosa Parks

Rosa Parks was a Black woman who played an important part in making positive changes for Black people in American society.

Early Life

Rosa Parks was born on 4th February 1913.

She was raised on a farm in a city called Montgomery in the USA.

Rosa Parks grew up at a time when Black people and other People of Colour did not have the same rights as White people.

Segregation in America

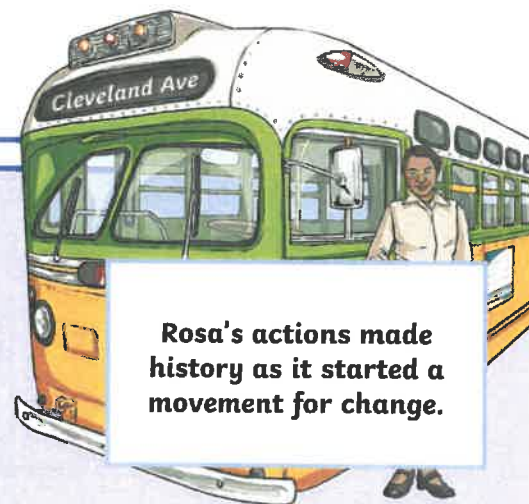
When Rosa Parks was growing up, the laws in many American states meant that Black people were not allowed to use the same public places as White people, such as schools, transport, toilets and restaurants. This was called 'segregation'. They also made it difficult for Black people to vote. Many White people did not respect Black people and treated them unfairly.

The Bus Ride

On 1st December 1955, Rosa Parks was on the bus on her way home from work. She was sitting in the area for Black people. However, the rule was that if the White area was full, a Black person must give up their seat for a White person. On this day, the White area was full, so Rosa was told to move but she refused. The driver threatened to call the police, but Rosa still didn't move. Eventually, the police came and arrested her, and she had to pay a fine.

What Happened Next?

What Rosa did on that day started a big movement. 40,000 Black people in the area (and some White people) refused to use the buses until they were treated fairly – this was called The Montgomery Bus Boycott. The boycott went on for 381 days before the government finally lifted the segregation on buses.



Rosa's actions made history as it started a movement for change.

Did You Know...?

The 4th February and 1st December (Rosa's birthday and the date she was arrested) are now known as 'Rosa Parks' memorial days' and are celebrated in some states of the USA.

Boycott – Refusing to use, buy or deal with a person, organisation, or country as a way of protest.

Rosa Parks Questions

1. When was Rosa Parks born? Tick one.

- 14th February, 1913
- 4th February, 1914
- 4th February, 1813
- 4th February, 1913

2. Tick all the public places where Black and White people had to stay apart when Rosa was growing up in the USA?

- schools
- transport
- toilets
- restaurants

3. Tick whether the statements are true or false.

	True	False
Rosa grew up at a time when Black people and other People of Colour did not have the same rights as White people.		
Rosa Parks was on the bus on her way to work when she refused to give up her seat.		
The bus boycott went on for 381 days.		

4. Look at the paragraph, **Segregation in America** and find and copy a word for that means 'treating or thinking about someone politely and kindly'.

5. What was the name of the movement where people stopped using the buses?

6. Draw **three** lines to match each word with the correct meaning.

segregation

boycott

Montgomery

Refusing to use, buy or deal with a person, organisation, or country as a way of protest.

A city in the USA.

The law in many American states separating Black and White people so that they were not allowed to use the same public places.

Rosa Parks Questions

7. If you had been sitting next to Rosa Parks on the bus that day, what do you think you would have done and why?



White Whales Rosa Parks

Rosa Parks was a Black woman who played a significant part in the **American Civil Rights movement**. She helped bring about changes to make life fairer for Black Americans.

Early Life

Rosa Parks was born on 4th February 1913, and was raised on a farm with her mother, brother and grandparents in a city called Montgomery in the USA. Rosa Parks grew up during an age when Black people and other People of Colour were treated as second-class citizens. They did not have the same rights as White people.

American Civil Rights movement

A push for Black Americans to have equal rights in the United States that took place mainly during the 1950s and 1960s.

Segregation in America

When Rosa Parks was growing up, the laws in many American states meant that Black people were not permitted to use some of the same public places as White people, such as schools, transport, toilets and restaurants. This was called 'segregation'. They also made it difficult for Black people to vote. Many White people did not respect Black people and treated them unjustly.

The Bus Ride

On 1st December, 1955, Rosa Parks was sitting on the bus on the way home from work. She was sitting in the section segregated for Black people. However, if the White section was full, Black people had to move so White people could have a seat. On this day, the White section was full, and Rosa was instructed to move so a White person could have her seat, but she refused. The driver threatened to call the police, but she remained sitting down. Eventually, the police came and Rosa was arrested for breaking the law and had to pay a fine.

What Happened Next?

What Rosa did on that day was the beginning of a historic movement in America. 40,000 Black people in the area (and some White people) refused to use the buses until they were treated fairly – this was called The Montgomery bus boycott. This many people could not be ignored. The boycott went on for 381 days until the government acted and the segregation on buses was lifted. Rosa's actions triggered a movement for change and even though it wasn't the end of all segregation, it was a victory.

"People always say that I didn't give up my seat because I was tired, but that isn't true. I was not tired physically, or no more tired than I usually was at the end of a working day. I was not old, although some people have an image of me as being old then. I was forty-two. No, the only tired I was, was tired of giving in." Parks, Rosa; James Haskins (1992). *Rosa Parks: My Story*. Dial Books. p. 116

Boycott – Refusing to use, buy or deal with a person, organisation, or country as a way of protest.

Did You Know...?

The 4th February and 1st December (Rosa's birthday and the date she was arrested) are now known as 'Rosa Parks' memorial days' and are celebrated in some states of the USA.

Rosa's actions made history as it started a movement for change.

Rosa Parks Questions

1. Where was Rosa Parks raised? Tick one.

- In the mountains in Montgomery
- On the coast in Miami
- On a farm in Montana
- On a farm in Montgomery

2. Tick whether the statements are true or false.

	True	False
Rosa was born on 4 th February 1914.		
Rosa grew up during an age when Black people and other People of Colour were treated as second-class citizens.		
Rosa Parks was on the bus on her way to work when she refused to give up her seat.		
The bus boycott went on for 381 days.		

3. The author uses the words 'second-class citizens' to describe how Black people and other People of Colour were treated. What do you think this means?

4. List **two** public places where Black and White people had to stay apart from each other when Rosa was growing up.

5. What was the name of the movement when people stopped using the buses?

6. **Rosa's actions triggered a movement for change...**

Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word 'triggered'. Tick one.

- upset
- started
- stopped
- created

white whales

Rosa Parks Questions

7. Draw **four** lines to match each word with the correct meaning.

segregation

boycott

American Civil
Rights movement

Montgomery

Refusing to use, buy or deal with a person, organisation, or country as a way of protest.

A city in the USA.

The law in many American states separating Black and White people so that they were not allowed to use the same public places.

A push for Black Americans to have equal rights in the United States that took place mainly during the 1950s and 1960s.

8. If you had been sitting next to Rosa Parks on the bus that day, what do you think you would have done and why?



Brown Bears Rosa Parks

American Civil Rights movement

A push for Black Americans to gain equal rights under the law in the United States, that took place mainly during the 1950s and 1960s.

Rosa Parks was a Black woman who helped bring about big changes in American society with her comparatively small action of sitting still on a bus. Her actions were the catalyst for the **American Civil Rights movement**, which sparked changes to make life fairer for Black Americans.

Early Life

Rosa Parks was born on 4th February, 1913, and grew up on a farm with her mother, brother and grandparents in a city called Montgomery in Alabama, USA. Rosa Parks grew up during an era when Black people and other People of Colour were treated as second-class citizens. They did not have the same rights as White people.

Segregation in America

When Rosa Parks was growing up, Black people were not permitted to use many of the same public places as White people, such as schools, hospitals, transport, toilets and restaurants. This was called 'segregation' and was a law enforced in many American states to separate White and Black people in public places. The facilities for Black people were of a poorer standard than White facilities. The laws also made it difficult for Black people to vote. Many White people did not respect Black people and they were treated with **prejudice**.

Prejudice – an unfair and unreasonable feeling of dislike for a person or group because of race, colour or religion.

The Bus Ride That Changed History

On 1st December, 1955, Rosa Parks was travelling home from work on a bus and sitting – as rules required – in the Black section to the rear of the bus. Bus companies prioritised seating for White people and moved Black people further back, or made them stand if the White section was full and a White person needed a seat. This happened to Rosa and she was told to move further back to give her seat to a White person...but she refused to move. She was threatened with police action but she stayed sat still, adamant that she would not follow the 'rules'. Eventually, the police arrested, charged and fined her for breaking the law.



Rosa Parks

What Happened Next?

Amazingly, Rosa's behaviour unleashed a wave of protest and 40,000 Black people in the area (and some White people) supported a bus **boycott**, named the Montgomery bus boycott. The bus companies lost a lot of money and the amount of people involved could not be ignored. With newspapers reporting on it, the government finally took action (381 days later) and in December 1956, the segregation on buses was lifted. Rosa's actions made history as they sparked a movement to make a change. Even though it wasn't the end of all segregation and civil rights still had a long way to go, it was a victory.

Boycott – A non-violent act that involves refraining from using, buying, or dealing with a person, organisation, or country as a means of protest, usually for moral, social, political or environmental reasons.



“People always say that I didn't give up my seat because I was tired, but that isn't true. I was not tired physically, or no more tired than I usually was at the end of a working day. I was not old, although some people have an image of me as being old then. I was forty-two. No, the only tired I was, was tired of giving in.”
Parks, Rosa; James Haskins (1992). Rosa Parks: My Story. Dial Books. p. 116

Memorial Days

Rosa died of natural causes in October 2005, at the age of 92.

The 4th February and 1st December, are now known as 'Rosa Parks' memorial days' and are celebrated in some states of the USA.

Brown Bears Rosa Parks Questions

1. Where was Rosa Parks raised?

2. The author uses the words 'second-class citizens' to describe how Black people and other People of Colour were treated. What do you think this means?

3. List **three** public places where Black and White people had to stay apart from each other when Rosa was growing up.

4. Tick whether the statements are true or false.

	True	False
Rosa was born on 4 th February 1914.		
Rosa grew up during an era when Black people did not have the same rights as White people.		
Rosa Parks was on the bus on her way to work when she refused to give up her seat.		
The Montgomery bus boycott went on for 381 days.		

5. Draw **four** lines to match each word with the correct meaning.

prejudice

boycott

American Civil Rights movement

Montgomery

A non-violent act that involves refraining from using, buying, or dealing with a person, organisation, or country as a means of protest.

A city in the USA.

An unfair and unreasonable feeling of dislike for a person or group because of race, colour or religion.

A push for Black Americans to have equal rights in the United States that took place mainly during the 1950s and 1960s.

Rosa Parks Questions

6. Explain what you understand by the term 'segregation'.

7. Find and copy a word that means the same as 'released'.

8. If you had been sitting next to Rosa Parks on the bus that day, what do you think you would have done and why?
