



# **RUBY BRIDGES AND THE DESEGREGATION OF AMERICAN SCHOOLS**

## **Another View**

This book discusses how the NAACP helped integrate schools in the 1950s and the 1960s. As you know, every source is different. Ask an adult to help you find another source about this topic. Write a short essay comparing the new source's point of view with that of this book's authors. What is the point of view of each source? How are they similar and why? How are they different and why?





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## **You Are There**

Chapter Three talks about children such as Ruby Bridges who integrated white schools. Imagine you were a student at a recently integrated school in the 1960s. Write a letter to your friends about your experience. Be sure to add plenty of details.





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## **Tell the Tale**

Chapter One of this book talks about what the US public school system was like before 1954. Imagine that you were going to school in that time period. Write 200 words about how your education then would be different from your education today.





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## **Take a Stand**

Chapter Five talks about the state of school segregation today. Desegregation remains important to modern civil rights activists. Do you think schools might be different today if integration had not happened in the 1950s and 1960s? Why or why not?





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## **Dig Deeper**

After reading this book, what questions do you still have about Ruby Bridges and school desegregation? With an adult's help, find a few reliable sources that can help you answer your questions. Write a paragraph about what you learned.





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## **Discussion Questions**

- How did African American activists fight discrimination in the 1900s? Do activists today fight discrimination in similar ways?
- In what ways did Ruby encounter discrimination at William Frantz Elementary School? How did her experience at the school change over time?





- Ruby's mother wanted her to attend a white school, but Ruby's father had strong concerns. Consider their points of view. If you were in their position, what decision do you think you would have made?
- What is Ruby's legacy? How is her legacy connected to the legacy of school desegregation?
- How do you think Ruby's story and the history of school desegregation could be taught in schools and communities today?

