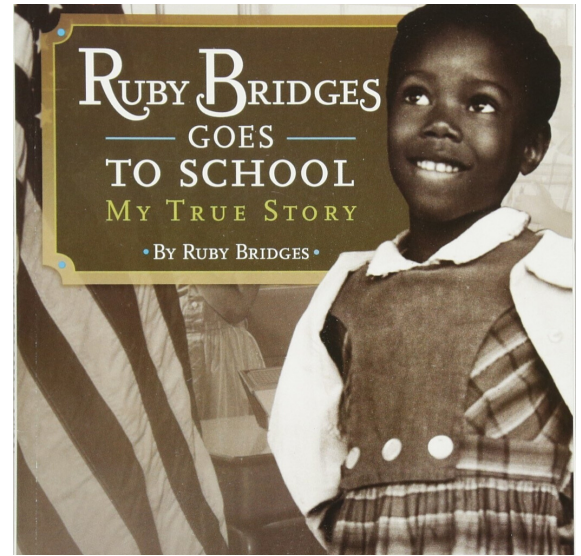




RUBY BRIDGES GOES TO SCHOOL

RUBY BRIDGES

Ruby Bridges is famous in America for being one of the first black children to attend a school that had traditionally been for white students only. It wasn't easy to be the first, but with brains, heart, and bravery, she can change the world. Ruby Bridges is an incredible role model for so many in this country, no matter the color of their skin, and there is much to be learned from her story and her bravery.



Questions:

1. Does skin color mean anything when it comes to friendship? Can you be friends with someone who looks different from you?
2. How would you feel, even now, when you saw the sign that said they don't want to go to school with black people? Even though most people don't feel that way now, would it still hurt to know that at some point someone would have hated you that much just because of your skin color?
3. How would it feel to not be allowed to go to a certain school or restaurant just because of what you looked like? Is it a fair reason to turn someone away?
4. How do you think Ruby felt when she had to have police officers take her to school to make sure she was safe?
5. Is it ever easy to be a new student? What if you were a new student at a school where you were completely different from everyone else? What if many people made signs and yelled that they didn't want you to be there? How would you feel if you were Ruby?
6. How do you think Ruby felt when she was the only student in school? How do you think her teacher felt when she saw all her other students wouldn't come just because of the color of Ruby's skin? The other kids were only first-graders. Do you think they made the choice not to come to school themselves, or did their parents keep them home?
7. Look at the picture of Ruby with her classmates. Is it them who hate her because of her skin color, or their parents? Did the kids become friends with Ruby and play with her? How did that make Ruby feel?
8. How would it feel to be so famous that books were written about you and paintings of you painted? What is so special about Ruby? What does it feel like to be brave? Is it easy or hard? Does it mean not being scared?
9. Why does Ruby say the most important thing is being kind? Do you agree?