

HISTORY



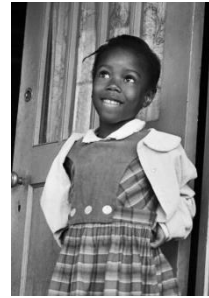
YEAR 2

HOW HAVE PEOPLE MADE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE?

The Big Picture

Over the last century certain individuals have stood up for their rights as human beings and have demanded that they be treated fairly. Their words and actions have inspired many people around the world to make the world a better place. In this topic, children will learn about the lives of some significant individuals, what they did to stand up for their rights and how the world has been changed because of their actions.

We know about this period because people who were alive when it happened have been able to tell us about it. We also have photos, videos and old newspapers which show us what it was like, as well as some objects that still exist.



End Point Knowledge

Ruby Bridges

- Segregation was the act of keeping people of colour separate from people with white skin.
- Bridges went to the school by herself. Bridges and her mother were escorted to school by four federal marshals.
- The marshals were there to protect Ruby from protesters who held up signs, shouted and threw things.
- As soon as Bridges entered the school, white parents pulled their own children out; all the teachers except for one (Barbara Henry) refused to teach while a black child was enrolled. For over a year Henry taught her alone, "as if she were teaching a whole class."
- Eventually, white parents began to bring their children back to school and the protests began to stop.

Luther King Jr.

- MLK was an American Baptist minister and activist who became the most visible spokesman and leader in the civil rights movement from 1955 until his murder.
- King participated in and led marches for the right to vote, desegregation, labour rights, and other civil rights.
- He oversaw the 1955 Montgomery bus boycott and later helped organize some of the nonviolent 1963 protests in Birmingham, Alabama. King was one of the leaders of the 1963 March on Washington, where he delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.
- **Died:** 4th April 1968 (aged 39) – assassinated by gunshot (killed by someone with a gun) in Memphis, Tennessee, U.S.A.
- Shortly after his death, the US government passed the Civil Rights Act of 1968, which promised that people wouldn't be discriminated against because of the colour of their skin.

Mohandas Gandhi

- Once back in India, Gandhi led the fight for Indian independence from the British Empire. He organized several non-violent civil disobedience campaigns. During these campaigns, large groups of the Indian population would do things like refusing to work, sitting in the streets, boycotting the courts, and more.
- Gandhi was put in prison several times for organizing these protests (e.g. Salt March). He would often fast (not eat) while he was in prison. The British government would eventually have to release him because the Indian people had grown to love Gandhi.
- Mohandas Gandhi is often called Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma is a term that means Great Soul. It's a religious title sort of like "Saint" in Christianity.
- **Died:** 30th January 1948 in New Delhi, India He was shot by a terrorist while attending a prayer meeting.

Emmeline Pankhurst

- She was the leader of the British suffragette movement which helped women win the right to vote.
- The group became infamous when its members smashed windows and assaulted police officers. Pankhurst, her daughters, and other WSPU activists were sentenced to repeated prison sentences, where they staged hunger strikes to secure better conditions.
- In 1918 some women got the vote but only if they were over 30 and owned a certain amount of property. Pankhurst kept protesting.

Key Vocabulary

Segregation, rights, civil rights, identity, fair, justice, protest, tolerance, respect, differences, similarities, equality, inequality, race, racial abuse, activist

