

The Story of Ruby Bridges

by Robert Coles

Read the story of Ruby Bridges with someone at home.  
Together discuss these questions:

- How would you describe Ruby's family?
- Look at the picture on the front cover.  
How do you think Ruby felt as she walked through that angry mob  
that gathered outside her school every day?
- Would you have been able to do what Ruby did when you were six years old?
- How did Ruby's teacher describe her?
- Think about his experience from Ruby's point of view.  
How would Ruby have described her first day in a diary or telling a friend?
- Would you have kept your child home if you were the parent of a  
first (elementary) school student? Why or why not?
- Ruby's mother wrote:  
"Our Ruby taught us all a lot.  
She became someone who helped change our country,  
the way part of history, just like generals and presidents are part of history.  
They're leaders, and so was Ruby.  
She led us away from hate, and started us nearer to knowing each other,  
the white folk and the black folk."  
Do you agree or disagree with her statement? Explain why.
- What can we learn today from this lesson from the past?



Write a letter to Ruby Bridges. Read your letter to someone at home.  
You can mail her your letter to the following address:

Ruby Bridges  
P.O. Box 870246  
New Orleans, LA 70187