

Name _____

Rosa Parks

Learn about Rosa Parks

Read the paragraph below and then answer the questions that follow.

Rosa Parks was born in 1913 and was homeschooled by her mother until she was eleven. Then she attended the Montgomery Industrial School for Girls. She went to college for a time, but dropped out to care for her grandmother, and later her mother. She married a barber, Raymond Parks, and together they were active in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Back then, blacks didn't have the same rights that white people did. For example, buses sat white people in the front and black people in the rear. If room was needed for a white person to sit, a black person was asked to move. One December day in 1955, Rosa, who rode the bus to get to her seamstress job, was asked to move from her seat. She refused. She was arrested and taken to jail. This incident received a lot of attention and led to a 381-day boycott of the buses by blacks. Nearly a year after Rosa took her stand, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that segregation was unlawful and blacks could now sit wherever they pleased. Rosa became an important symbol for the Civil Rights movement and received many honors in later years. Rosa Parks died in 2005 at the age of 92.

Questions:

Where did Rosa go to school at age eleven?

Why did Rosa drop out of college?

What association did Rosa and her husband, Raymond, belong to?

Why was Rosa asked to move from her bus seat?

How many days did the boycott of buses by blacks last?
