

Name: _____ Date: _____

Ruby Bridges

Ruby Bridges was born in 1954 in Mississippi. She had 5 siblings and her parents were farmers. In 1956, Ruby and her family moved to New Orleans, Louisiana looking for better work.

Many Southern states still had segregated schools even though the U.S. Supreme Court had made a ruling that ended segregation in schools.

In 1959, Ruby attended an all-black kindergarten. The following year, the government mandated that Louisiana desegregate its schools. So the school system created an entrance exam for all African American students to take. Ruby and five other students passed the exam!

Her parents were split about sending Ruby to the all-white school but decided to go ahead so that Ruby would have the same educational opportunities. Ruby and her mother were escorted by federal marshalls every day that year to school. Some people were very upset that Ruby was allowed to attend that school.

Ruby graduated from a desegregated high school and became a travel agent. She has been active in equal rights ever since and is still alive today.

Who is this passage about?

What is she famous for?

What did she do to help other African Americans?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Ruby Bridges

Directions: Create a timeline about Ruby's life using the information provided in the passage.

