

Extra Credit for Ruth Brown: Fearless Librarian

About the Civil Rights Movement

Book: Adler, David A. *Heroes for Civil Rights*. New York: Holiday House, 2008.

Book: Sigler, Jay A. *Civil Rights in America: 1500 to the Present*. Detroit : Gale, 1998.

Book: Treanor, Nick. (Ed.) *The Civil Rights Movement*. San Diego : Greenhaven Press, 2003.

DVD: [Eyes on the Prize, volumes 1-7](#). Produced by PBS in 2006. This Emmy-winning documentary covers major events from 1954-1985 and incorporates contemporary interviews and historical footage.

Website: [Civil Rights Era Timeline](#). Provides a breakdown of events from 1954 to 1971, and includes reference materials, children's activities, classroom resources, and more.

About Integration

Book: Bridges, Ruby. *Through My Eyes*. New York : Scholastic Press, 1999.

Book: Haskins, James. *Separate, But Not Equal: the Dream and the Struggle*. New York : Scholastic, 1998

DVD: *Little Rock Central: 50 Years Later*. Produced by HBO Films in 2007. An eye-opening look at racial equality, education, and class at the high school where the movement to integrate public schools began.

Website: [Civil Rights 101: School Desegregation](#). Records relevant and up-to-the minute civil rights news and information.

About Libraries, Librarians, and the Freedom to Read

Book: Lerner, Frederick Andrew. *Libraries Through the Ages*. New York : Continuum, 1999.

Book: Sawa, Maureen. *The Library Book: the Story of Libraries From Camels to Computers*. Toronto, Ontario : Tundra Books, 2006.

Book: Underwood, Deborah. *Librarian*. Farmington Hills, MI : KidHaven Press, 2005.

Website: [History of the Library](#). Details the development of the library, from Mesopotamia to the founding of America's Library Company of Philadelphia.

Website: [Librarians](#). Want to know what it takes to be a librarian? What a librarian does all day? What kind of salary a librarian makes? Get the answers to these questions and more!

Website: [Freedom to Read](#). Compiled by the American Library Association.

Website: [Oklahoma Library Association](#)

About Richard Wright

Book: Levy, Debbie. *Richard Wright: a Biography*. Minneapolis, MN : Twenty-First Century Books, 2008.

Website: [Richard Wright](#). The Mississippi Writers Page, maintained by the University of Mississippi.

About Joseph McCarthy, McCarthyism, Anti-Communism

Book: Cohen, Daniel. *Joseph McCarthy: the Misuse of Political Power*. Brookfield, Conn. : Millbrook Press, 1996.

Book: Zeinert, Karen. *McCarthy and the Fear of Communism in American History*. Springfield, NJ : Enslow Pub.,1998.

Website: [McCarthy-Welch Exchange](#). The famed "Have you no sense of decency" speech by Joseph Welch, which some scholars mark as the beginning of Sen. McCarthy's decline in power.

Teachers Resources

Book: Turck, Mary. *The Civil Rights Movement for Kids: a History With 21 Activities*. Chicago : Chicago Review Press, 2000. Includes a detailed resource list and bibliography at the back of the book.

Website: [Civil Rights Pathfinder](#) A compilation of websites useful for classroom activities.

Fun Stuff

[Ruth Brown Criss Cross](#)

[Ruth Brown Word Search](#)

Discussion Questions

- Why do you think Ruth broke the traditional roles of segregation in her community?
- What made Ruth call off her engagement?
- How do you think Ruth felt when she lost her job? Do you think she did the right thing? What, if anything, would you have done differently?
- Ruth participated in a sit-in to demonstrate her belief that segregation was wrong. Write a paragraph describing how you might have felt if you were sitting in the drugstore that day. You might be sitting with Ruth or you might be a customer observing her actions.
- What would you do if a librarian refused to let you check out a book you wanted? How would you handle the situation?
- In your opinion, why is the public library important to a community?
- It took courage for Ruth to take a stand for integration. Describe a role model important to you who has taken a stand against injustice. What do you admire most about this person?



46