



ROSA PARKS



Rosa Parks was a black woman who was known for making a stand. Her actions helped to make life fairer for black people in America. If she had not refused, then she would not be a **significant** person and the world would be a very different place.

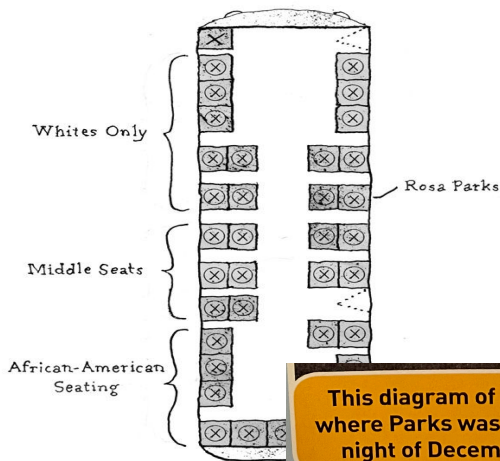
What was life like for Rosa Parks?

Rosa Parks was born on 4th February 1913 in Alabama USA. She was a small, quiet girl who lived on a farm with her parents and grandparents. Rosa Parks was a seamstress but she also worked to spread the word about **civil rights**.



Rosa Parks as a teenager.

SEGREGATED SEATING ON A MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA BUS (1955)



This diagram of a bus shows where Parks was sitting on the night of December 1, 1955.

What happened on the bus?

On 1st December 1955, the bus was starting to get crowded so the bus driver told Rosa Parks to move from her seat for a white person. She refused to move so she was arrested by the police for breaking **segregation** laws. Rosa Parks' refusal caught the attention from others who also thought the laws were not fair.

Why was there a bus boycott?

Word spread about what happened. Parks' reaction encouraged people to stand up against **injustice**. To show their upset, people took part in a bus **boycott** which lasted a year. People also took to the streets to **protest** against the unfair rules. If they had not boycotted the buses, then the laws would not have been changed.



Did you know...

Rosa Parks was not the first black person to refuse a seat but her actions caused the famous bus **boycott** that helped change the laws.

Glossary

boycott	- the act of refusing a service as a way of protesting against it.
civil rights	- the right for all people to be treated equally.
injustice	- the lack of fairness or justice.
protest	- to show you do not agree with something.
segregation	- the act of keeping a group apart from others.
significant	- having much importance.