

## **History**

## **Civil Rights** Year 8



1865 13th Amendment

1930s Franklin Roosevelt's 'New Deal'

1954 US Supreme Court declared segregated schools were wrong.

December 1955 Rosa Parks and the **Bus Boycott** 

August 1963 Martin Luther King's 'I have a Dream' speech

1863 Lincoln's **Emancipation** Proclamation

1909 NAACP set up

December 1952 Brown vs Board of Education

August 1955 Murder of **Emmett Till** 

**Equality** 

1957 Little Rock 9

**April 1968** Martin Luther King's assassination

**Key Knowledge** 

- During the Reconstruction era, the Ku Klux Klan were formed and terrified African Americans in the South. They were beaten, lvnched, burned, shot or drowned.
- 'Jim Crow Laws' (from 1876) enforced segregation in the South. Black and White people were to be separate and had separate facilities, like schools, public transport, water fountains.
- After WW2, many African Americans returned home having fought for the US army. They were determined to challenge poverty, discrimination, and the segregation they experienced.
- The big breakthrough came when the Supreme Court looked into the issue of segregation in schools and showed that the system was damaging African American children. In 1954 it declared segregated schools wrong.
- White Southerns were horrified and the KKK made a comeback. In many Southern states the law was ignored.
- 1955: the NAACP in Montgomery were angry and wanted African Americans to boycott the buses. They asked Martin Luther King to lead this. He kept the boycotters going by his rousing speeches.
- 1957: Little Rock High School in Arkansas, 9 black students were allowed to attend an all-White high school This caused an angry mob and violence. The President and the army were called in to deal with the issues.
- 1969: Nashville, Tennessee, black students organised a number of 'sit-ins' at lunch counters in shops.
- 250,000 people came to hear Martin Luther King speak in Washington in 1963.
- Despite the successes of Luther King and the non-violent methods, many black people felt angry and there was a lot of unrest in the mid 1960s. They felt peaceful protests were not working. They looked to militant groups, like the Black Panthers and the Black Power Movement. Riots took place across 25 cities between 1964 and 1967.

**Key People** 

**Emmett Till** 

A 14 year old

African American

boy from Chicago

who was abducted.

lynched and killed in

Money, Mississippi

in 1955 after being

accused of

offending a white

woman.

**Martin Luther** 

King

A Civil Rights activist

who led the

movement to end

segregation and

prejudice in the

**United States** 

through means of

peaceful protests.

Franklin D. Roosevelt In the 1930s, the

President promised a 'New Deal' to get people back to work but African Americans often failed to benefit. In the South, many worked as 'sharecroppers'.

## **Rosa Parks**

She refused to give up her bus seat to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama, This led to her arrest on 1st December 1955 and the launch of the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

## Malcolm X

An African American Civil Rights leader who spoke about Black empowerment and inspired the Black Power movement.

**Key Vocabulary** 

Abolition	The act of ending slavery.
Boycott	To refuse to take part in something, or buy a product or service, as a way of making a protest.

Discrimination	Treatment against a person or group of people based on race, age, sex or disability.
E	The state of being equal, especially in terms

of status, rights or opportunities.

Emancipation	The process of being set free from legal, social or political restrictions.
Lynching	To kill someone for an alleged offence without a legal trial, usually by hanging.

Militant	Extremists who want to use violence.
NAACP	The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

apart

Racism	based on her race or ethnic group.
Segregation	The act of keeping someone or something

Sharecropper	A tenant farmer who gives a part of each group as rent.
Windrush	The people who emigrated from the

Caribbean to Britain in 1948.