

Rosa Parks and Segregation in America

KS2 (this activity could also be adapted for KS1)

Many of the minutes that you have been listening to were performed and composed by groups and individuals who are victims of racism.

This activity is designed to teach children about segregation in the United States of America, focusing on Rosa Parks and her experiences. The children will learn about Rosa Parks and her life and then write a letter to your local MP asking them how they will prevent this from happening again. During this exercise, we are aiming to get children to think about ways that they can help/useful ways of combating racial prejudice EG - Call out Racism, not stay silent, don't participate, include others and much more. There are two activities within this plan which can be used together as an input and a main activity or individually.

<p>Linked 'Celebrating Musical Role Models' minutes:</p> <p>#15 So What by Miles Davis</p>	<p>Other minutes to listen to:</p> <p>#5 My Favourite Things performed by John Coltrane</p> <p>#10 Free Jazz by Ornette Coleman</p>
<p>Links to National Curriculum</p>	<p>Citizenship, Literacy</p>
<p>Resources</p>	<p>Minute of Listening Black History Month collection</p>
<p>Key Vocabulary</p>	<p>Discrimination, Segregation, Racism, fairness, equality.</p>
<p>Activity 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to minute #15, So What by Miles Davis, performed in 1960. • Who was Miles Davis? Find out by following the link from minute #15 to find out more, also provided in the supporting information below. • Explain to the class that they are going to be learning about Rosa Parks and by the end of the activity the children will be able to answer the following questions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is segregation? • Why did racial segregation happen? • Who is Rosa Parks? • Why is she important? (There is some information about Rosa Parks in the supporting information below). • Ask the children to research who Rosa Parks was and what she did. • Emphasise how Rosa Park's experience still happens today in different ways, including in the UK. (e.g Stop and Search in the UK, Policing, racism in the work place, health care etc) • Working with a partner ask the children to discuss the questions <i>"How should citizens, young people and adults help in situations of injustice?"</i> <p>E.g</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If a family member made a racist comment.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If someone was forced to leave a bus due to their ethnicity. ○ If a child is mocked for having a different accent when speaking English. • Divide students into small discussion groups to think how they can help to make a tolerant, fair and inclusive society. <p>Examples could be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Encouraging speaking different languages in public other than English.</i> ○ <i>Learning about different places in the world other than UK, US or Europe (how could you do this? Music, Film and Art etc)</i> • <i>Recognise and celebrate difference</i>
Activity 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imagine a similar situation to Rosa Parks happened on public transport near you. Write a letter to your local MP asking them what steps they are taking to prevent this from happening again.
Supporting information 1	<p>Biography of Miles Davis</p> <p>Miles Dewey Davis III was an American jazz trumpeter, bandleader, and composer who is among the most influential and acclaimed figures in the history of jazz and 20th century music. He made his professional debut as a member of saxophonist Charlie Parker's bebop quintet from 1944 to 1948, but quickly grew to lead his own projects and bands, recording the Birth of Cool sessions for Capitol Records.</p> <p>In the early 1950s, Davis recorded some of the earliest hard bop music while on Prestige Records. In 1955 he signed a long-term contract with Columbia Records and recorded the 1957 album Round About Midnight with John Coltrane and bassist Paul Chambers. His distinctive muted trumpet sound, and a series of late '50s albums (Miles Ahead, Porgy & Bess, Kind of Blue and Sketches of Spain) propelled him into the mainstream and secured his widespread popularity. Throughout the '60s he traced a path of unparalleled growth and innovation recording Miles Smiles, ESP, Nefertiti, Miles In The Sky, and Filles de Kilimanjaro. Davis adopted a variety of musical directions in his five-decade career and he consistently pursued new worlds of sound, often shaping the course of modern improvisational music and major stylistic developments in jazz.</p> <p>During the 1970s, he radically experimented with rock, funk, African rhythms and emerging technology, achieving a career breakthrough with the wildly popular 'Bitches Brew' that attracted a new, younger generation.</p> <p>His fascination with funk continued through the 80s with the addition of synthesisers and drum machines to his repertoire. His final album with Columbia Records 'You're Under Arrest' included unexpected covers of recent pop hits (Michael Jackson's "Human Nature" and Cyndi Lauper's "Time After Time"). His final albums were published by Warner Bros, and continued to explore new musical terrain. They include Tutu, Music from Siesta, Amandla (featuring a new breed of soloists), and Doo-Bop with hip hop producer Easy Moe Bee.</p> <p>He performed sold-out concerts worldwide while branching out into visual arts, film, and television work, before his death in 1991 from the combined effects of a stroke, pneumonia and respiratory failure. In 2006, Davis was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, which recognized him as "one of the key figures in the history of jazz".</p>



	<p>Miles Davis created much of his music at a time when many people were being persecuted due to the colour of their skin. This piece was recorded in 1960, this was during the civil rights movement in America four years before the Civil Rights Act 1964 which decreed that segregation was unlawful.</p> <p>Suggested into While i think this is a good overview of his life I think you should mention the fact that he and many other Black musicians faced racial abuse even though they were respected/renowned musicians. By doing this you are still contextualising the story of racism etc into the story. I also think that you should mention how Black American Music became a capitalist commodity and therefore a lot of Black musicians were exploited by their labels or paid very little despite being very popular. It would be a shame to paint such an easy picture of his life when it was filled with hardship and struggle. However, I understand this might be contextual depending on this year groups being taught)</p> <p>•</p>
Supporting information 2	<p>The Civil Rights Movement in the United States of America</p> <p>The Civil rights movement was a consequence of centuries of racist treatment towards African Americans in the US which was institutionalised through factors such as segregation and creation of the Jim Crow laws. (For information on slavery in America see the KS2 activity on Slavery and the Blues.)</p> <p>After the abolition of slavery by the 13th amendment in 1865, Jim Crow laws were created in Southern states as the start of segregation in 1877. The Jim Crow laws forced Black African-Americans who were often former slaves to separate from 'white' people in public. This meant that they could not attend the same schools, sit together on public transport, where they lived and even which jobs they could take and how much money they could earn.</p> <p><u>Timeline leading up to the Civil Rights Act 1964</u></p> <p>1865 – Slavery abolished by the 13th Amendment, however, there was a loophole in the amendment as it made an exception for those convicted of a crime. The loophole in our constitution's ban on slavery not only allowed slavery to continue but launched an era of discrimination and mass incarceration that continues to this day. Even though the Emancipation Proclamation was made effective in 1863, it could not be implemented in places still under Confederate control. As a result, in the westernmost Confederate state of Texas, enslaved people would not be free until much later. Freedom finally came on June 19, 1865, when some 2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas. The army announced that the more than 250,000 enslaved black people in the state, were free by executive decree. This day came to be known as "Juneteenth," by the newly freed people in Texas.</p> <p>1869 – 14th Amendment gave African-American citizens full rights.</p> <p>1877 – Jim Crow laws enforced racial segregation</p> <p>1808 – International Slave trade outlawed by USA.</p> <p>1954 – Brown V Board of Education said that segregation in schools was unlawful.</p> <p>1955 – Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat in the coloured section to a white person and was arrested she became an icon of the movement against segregation. The Rosa Parks story by saying she wasn't the first to do this, as in March 1955, nine months before Rosa Parks defied segregation laws by refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger on a bus in</p>



	<p>Montgomery, Alabama, 15-year-old Claudette Colvin did exactly the same thing.</p> <p>1963 – Martin Luther King delivered his famous ‘I have a dream speech’ calling for the end of racism in the United States.</p> <p>1964 – Civil Rights Act passed – It would be useful here to mention that although the civil rights acts has passed there are still issues pertaining to racism that exist in the 21st century and one can draw attention to movements like Black Lives Matter.</p>
Supporting information 3	<p>Rosa Parks (1913-2005)</p> <p>Rosa Parks grew up in Alabama and moved to Montgomery in 1932 when she married her husband Raymond Parks. Montgomery was segregated (see section on American Civil Rights above).</p> <p>In December 1955, Rosa Parks was on a bus on her way home from work when she was asked to stand up because the white section of the bus was full and she was sitting in the coloured section. Rosa refused to stand up. The police were called and Rosa was arrested. Rosa was charged with breaking a segregation law and fined. She refused and said the law was illegal.</p> <p>As a consequence of her actions, many other African Americans decided to boycott the buses in Montgomery. They didn’t ride the bus for 381 days until the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that segregation laws in Alabama were unconstitutional. Rosa Parks continued to fight for Civil rights and became a symbol of the fight for freedom and equality.</p>

