

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1	
A Long Journey	2
Chapter 2	
The Way Things Were	6
Chapter 3	
Building a Case	12
Chapter 4	
The Court Decides	18
Chapter 5	
Little Rock	20
Chapter 6	
The Governor Disagrees	26
Chapter 7	
The Big Day	30
Chapter 8	
The President Steps In	34
Chapter 9	
Troops Arrive	40
Chapter 10	
Things Change	44
Glossary	50

Chapter 1

A LONG JOURNEY

It was the 1950s.
Linda Brown was 7 years old.
She lived in Topeka, Kansas.

Linda was in third grade.
Her school was far away.
She walked six blocks.
Then she rode a bus.
Finally she got to school.
It was a long trip.







There was a school that was closer.
It was near Linda's house.
Linda wanted to go there.
But she was not allowed.

That school was for white children.
Linda was African American.
She was not welcome.

Chapter 2

THE WAY THINGS WERE

Life was different back then.
Many states had special *laws*.
They kept blacks and whites apart.
These were called *Jim Crow laws*.



These laws were not fair.
Rules were based on color.
Blacks had to sit in the back of buses.
They could not eat with whites.
Whites and blacks could not marry.



Words of History

Freedom Rider: a person who tested laws saying that people could not be treated differently while traveling using buses and trains in the South