

Lesson 2: Who is Ruby Bridges?

- Born 8th September, 1954 in Mississippi, US.
- She is now an American activist.
- At the age of 6, she was the youngest of a group of African American students to integrate schools in the American South.
- When she was 4 years old, her family moved to New Orleans.
- At age 6, a test was given to the African American school children to decide which students could enter all-white schools.
- Ruby passed the test and was enrolled at William Frantz Elementary School.
- Of the 6 students assigned, Ruby was the only one to enrol. On her first day, she was escorted to school by 4 federal marshals.



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- She spent the whole day in the Heads office as irate parents marched into school to remove their children.
- From the second day, Ruby had a young teacher who worked with her every day for the whole year, on her own.
- She continued to be escorted to school, but had threats from an angry crowd shouted at her every day.
- Ruby established the Ruby Bridges Foundation in 1999 to promote tolerance and unity among school children.

