

Little Guides to Great Lives

NELSON MANDELA



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

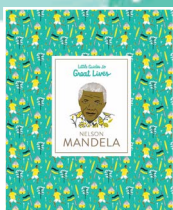
- Who was Nelson Mandela? Why is he famous and what did he stand for?
- Where was Nelson Mandela born and where did he grow up? What was his village like? How were his early years different from yours?
- Can you describe what apartheid was and how it affected people's lives?
- What did Mandela try to achieve by founding the ANC?
- How long did Mandela spend in prison and what happened to him and to his native South Africa after he was finally released?

WRITING PROMPT

Nelson Mandela's story inspires people all over the world. He was an ordinary man who learned to overcome his fear and do what he felt was right. He kept going every time he fell. Every year on 18 July, people celebrate Mandela Day. They remember the 67 years Nelson spent fighting for freedom by giving 67 minutes of their time to help others. **What is it that you feel passionate about and what will you do to achieve it?**

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- For more information, be sure to read *Little Lives to Great Lives: Nelson Mandela* by Isabel Thomas and illustrated by Hannah Warren
- Learn more about Nelson Mandela's legacy at www.nelsonmandela.org and listen to his Acceptance and Nobel Lecture at: www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1993/mandela/lecture

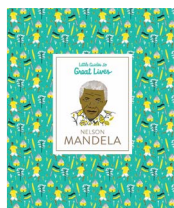


**Little Lives to Great Lives:
Nelson Mandela**
by Isabel Thomas &
illustrated by Hannah Warren
ISBN 9781786271945 | £8.99

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Timeline



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Glossary

apartheid – meaning ‘apartness’, apartheid was a system of laws and rules that forced black and white South Africans to live separately. Introduced by the National Party in 1948, the laws remained in place until 1991, when President F.W. de Klerk began to remove them.

African National Congress (ANC) – a political organization founded in 1912 to fight for black and mixed-race Africans’ right to vote in elections. The ANC was banned from 1960 to 1990, so the party had to work secretly for many years. Nelson Mandela was elected president of the ANC in 1991.

African National Congress Youth League – a branch of the ANC formed by Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu and Oliver Tambo in 1944, to involve more young people in the fight against racial inequality.

Congress Alliance – a collection of political groups that came together in the 1950s to create a fairer society. They realized that they had a much better chance of achieving their goals if they worked together. The Congress Alliance published the Freedom Charter in 1955.

Defiance Campaign – a form of peaceful protest, introduced by the ANC in 1952, in which protesters risked prison by ignoring the

‘whites only’ signs in places such as post offices, shops and trains. Although the campaign was ultimately unsuccessful, it showed that people were willing to fight against apartheid and it increased support for the ANC.

defendant – a person who has been accused of a crime and whose guilt or innocence is being decided in a court of law.

domination – to have power or control over someone or something.

Freedom Charter – a document written by the Congress Alliance in 1955 that outlined the type of country they wanted South Africa to become. Thousands of South Africans helped shape the charter by sending letters to the congress that outlined the freedoms they wanted all South Africans to have.

high treason – to betray your country by planning to use violence to get rid of a leader or government.

missionary – a member of a religious group, who is sent to a foreign country to educate others about their religion’s beliefs.

Nobel Peace Prize – one of five prizes awarded each year for outstanding work in different areas, such as science, medicine and literature.

The Nobel Prize was started by the Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel in 1895.

passbook – a document given to all black South Africans during apartheid, which said where they had the right to live, work and travel. Black people had to carry passbooks whenever they travelled outside their homes, or risk 30 days in prison.

prosecution – the lawyers in a court case, who have to prove that the defendant is guilty.

protest – an act designed to show your unhappiness with something – often laws or leaders – in the hope that it will change.

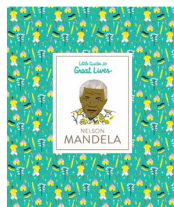
right – the moral or legal freedom to have or to do something, such as the right to vote and have access to clean drinking water.

sabotage – to try and weaken or stop something from working on purpose. You can sabotage an object or something less concrete, such as a government.

Spear of the Nation – the ANC’s secret army, set up by Nelson in 1961 to fight apartheid, once it had become clear that the government would not respond to peaceful protests.

Thembu – the South African clan that Nelson and his family belonged to. Thembu people have their own culture and traditions, and speak a language called Bantu.

township – a suburb or town where only black South Africans were allowed to live during apartheid. Townships were usually located outside a city and often did not have the same benefits as the towns and settlements lived in by white Africans.



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