

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Test Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Civil Rights

### *Facts to Know*

People are different in many ways, but they should all have equal rights that are given to American citizens in our Constitution. There have been some courageous leaders who have worked hard to bring civil rights to everyone.

After the Civil War, Susan B. Anthony led the fight for American women to be able to vote in our elections. She gave many speeches, led marches, and even got arrested. Finally, in 1920, the law was changed to allow all women to vote.

Eleanor Roosevelt, the wife of President Roosevelt, worked her whole life to bring opportunities and equal treatment to all Americans everywhere.

Mary McLeod Bethune started schools and colleges for black students so they could finally get education to help them improve their lives.

Jackie Robinson became the first black player on a major league baseball team. He opened the way for many more talented black athletes to play all over the world.

Rosa Parks refused to give her bus seat up to a white man. This began a long bus boycott, where many people stopped riding buses until a law permitting segregation was changed and the bus company gave all passengers equal treatment.

When the bus boycott began, Martin Luther King, Jr. became the leader of the civil rights movement. He encouraged all people who were trying to change bad laws to do it without violence so no one would be hurt. He led huge marches and gave powerful speeches, helping everyone to understand how important it is to give equal treatment to all.

Cesar Chavez was the first person to gain a voice for migrant farm workers, and improve their lives.

Each of these people helped to change laws to be better for everyone, and did so in a nonviolent, peaceful way.

## Vocabulary

boycott- to refuse to do something as a form of protest

civil rights- the obligation the government has to protect its citizens from discrimination and to guarantee equal citizenship

equal rights- all citizens sharing the same rights without discrimination

migrant worker- someone who moves from place to place to find work

nonviolence- a form of protest that does not involve violence