When Ruby Bridges attends a new school in the 1960s, she is excited but confused. Why does she need an escort by US marshals? Why is she the only one in her classroom? How could her skin color make such a big difference in the way other people treat her? Follow along as Ruby learns to be “Brave Little Ruby,” a trailblazer who helped change hearts and our nation’s history.

by Shannen Yauger
CHAPTER 1

Ruby’s Story

Imagine you are sitting in a room with a group of children. A grown-up is going to read a book to all of you.
In this room we have boys and girls with light hair and dark hair. We have boys and girls with all shades of skin.
When Ruby Bridges was a little girl, this was not possible. When she was little, she had to stay only with people that were African American.
Many people did not believe this was right, kind, or good. They did not think that people needed to be *segregated* (or kept apart) because of the color of their skin.

When Ruby was in first grade, she was one of the first African American children to go to a school that was built just for white children.

Let’s follow Ruby’s story as she makes history!