



Second Grade Social Studies



2nd Grade Social Studies Activity 4

*There will be a short video lesson of a Knox County teacher to accompany this task available on the KCS YouTube Channel and KCS TV. The video can be paused and rewound to review.

Topic: History, with a focus on Jackie Robinson and Wilma Rudolph

Goals: To learn about the accomplishments of Jackie Robinson and Wilma Rudolph.

Guiding Question: What makes someone important to our past, present, and future?

Standards: 2.29, 2.31, 2.32

Introduction of Lesson: Today, for our Social Studies lesson, we are going to look back in history at the lives of Jackie Robinson and Wilma Rudolph. We will begin with Jackie Robinson. We will read a Readworks passage and then watch a short clip of Jackie Robinson playing baseball. Next we will learn about Wilma Rudolph and watch a short clip of her running. We will discuss how both had to have courage to keep going towards their dreams.

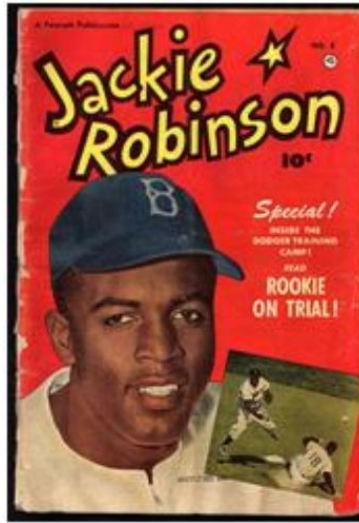
Tasks for Students to Complete: Use information learned about each person and make a trading card. You will use a blank sheet of paper, one for each person. On the front will be the picture and name. The back will have facts about the person. Facts are usually listed in chronological order. (If you want to save paper you could use a half sheet.)

Additional Resources:

- *I am Jackie Robinson* book by Brad Meltzer
- *Wilma Unlimited* book by Kathleen Krull
- Brain Pop Jr and Brainpop

Famous African Americans - Jackie Robinson

by ReadWorks



Jackie Robinson was the first African American to play Major League Baseball. Robinson played for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Although he played multiple positions, he was most famous for playing second base. He was also an outstanding hitter and fast runner.

In 1947, Robinson was named Rookie of the Year. It was his first year playing Major League Baseball. Two years later, he received the National League's Most Valuable Player award. Each year, his popularity grew and grew. He led the Brooklyn Dodgers to a World Series victory in 1955.

The most amazing thing about Jackie Robinson was his courage. Even though he was an incredible player, many people didn't like him. Why? They didn't like the fact that he was African American. Every game was a trial for him. He had to put up with viewers and other players making racist remarks towards him. Sometimes even his own teammates called him names.

Robinson didn't let the racism stop him. He had the courage to continue playing. In 1962, Jackie Robinson was elected into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. In 1984, he was awarded a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Wilma Rudolph: Star of the Track

by Caitlyn Meagher

Have you heard of Wilma Rudolph? She was a great runner and a track star! But she did not have an easy path to becoming a star runner.

When she was a child, Rudolph suffered from some diseases, including scarlet fever and polio. These diseases made it difficult for her to walk. Some doctors even told her she would never be able to walk again, but Rudolph would not give up so easily. She was eventually able to walk by wearing a brace on one leg. A brace is a device that supports an injured or weak body part.

Wilma Rudolph kept using her leg and could finally walk without the leg brace. She quickly found her passion: sports. She loved basketball and running. In high school, Rudolph trained as a runner. It was clear she had natural talent. In 1956, she went to the Olympic games! She won a bronze medal in a track & field event. In 1960, she competed in the Olympics again and won three gold medals! People called her one of the fastest women in the world.

After the Olympics, she returned home to Tennessee. The governor of Tennessee did not believe in integration between black people and white people. He wanted her welcome celebration to be segregated. Rudolph refused to attend this event. She paved the way for equality in sports.

People remember Rudolph as an elegant, kind person. She helped those around her and created a charitable organization. This organization helped train young athletes. In 1977, people made a movie about Rudolph's story. Today, people continue to be inspired by her story.



Wilma Rudolph at the finish line during 50 yard dash at track meet in Madison Square Garden. New York, 1961. Photograph.

<https://www.loc.gov/item/96501016/>.

Wilma Rudolph winning a track race



Nationaal Archief

Wilma Rudolph (number 117) in the 1960 Olympics

Task

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Front of Card (picture of the person)	Back of Card (facts about the person)