

Nelson Mandela

By Barbara Kramer

Enjoy the Book Together

- Nelson Mandela learned his first lessons about leadership from living with the king of the Thembu people. Ask your child to summarize the lessons he learned. Discuss how those lessons helped make him a beloved leader.
- Mandela was passionate about fighting for equality. He dedicated his entire life to the fight, and it cost him, personally and professionally. What sacrifices did Mandela make for his beliefs?
- Mandela's father named him Rolihlahla (ho-lee-LHA-lha), which means "troublemaker." In a way, this name predicted who Mandela would become! After reading, discuss how Mandela was a "troublemaker"— the kind who stirs things up to make the world a better place.

Make Personal Connections

- During his first years in prison, Mandela was only allowed to have two visitors a year. Do you know, or can you imagine, what it's like to be kept away from the people you love? Share your thoughts with each other.
- Mandela was an incredible man with an equally incredible story. What part of his story affects you the most, and why? Discuss.

Literacy Tip

The information in this book is presented through text, photos with captions, and boxes ("Words to Know," "In His Own Words," "That's a Fact!" and more). A good strategy for reading pages with multiple sources of information is to read the main text first, then the photos and captions, then everything else.

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Several major things happened to Nelson Mandela that changed the course of his life and led him to become an international icon of freedom and equality. Fill out the cause-and-effect chart below to explain how certain events came about, and what they led to.

Event	Why It Happened	What It Led To
Mandela goes to live with the king of the Thembu people.		Mandela begins to learn about leadership, history, and African heroes.
Mandela runs away to Johannesburg.		Mandela works as a clerk in a law office and joins the African National Congress (ANC).
Mandela is arrested in 1956 with other activists who were working to make life better for black Africans.	Mandela becomes a leader of the ANC and organizes marches and strikes.	
Mandela is freed from prison after 27 years.		