

# **Above the Rim: How Elgin Baylor Changed Basketball**

## **Written By: Jen Bryant**

## **Illustrated By: Frank Morrison**

**Synopsis:** A description of how Elgin Baylor impacted the game of basketball and was an advocate for civil rights.

### **Suggested Reading Date:**

- Black History Month (February)
- Also fits the PBIS theme for January (perseverance)

### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Use Google Maps to show the moves that Elgin Baylor made from Washington D.C. to Caldwell, Idaho (home of the College of Idaho) to Seattle University.
- The book tells parallel stories of what was happening in Elgin's life along with other significant events in the Civil Rights movement: the Montgomery Bus Boycott, school desegregation, and lunch counter sit-ins. Highlight for the kids why those were each important in their own way, along with what Elgin was doing.
- School Library Journal also has a collection of ideas here:  
<https://www.theclassroombookshelf.com/2021/01/above-the-rim-peaceful-activism-for-a-new-year/>

### **Related Websites:**

- Pairing *Elgin Baylor* with primary sources, from the American Association of School Librarians: <https://knowledgequest.aasl.org/pairing-picture-books-and-primary-sources-above-the-rim-how-elgin-baylor-changed-basketball/>
- The author page for Jen Bryant: <https://www.jenbryant.com/>
- Illustrator Frank Morrison's website: <https://morrisongraphics.com/pages/about-frank-morrison>
- ....and his Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/frankmorrison/?hl=en>
- Seattle University's obituary of Elgin Baylor:  
<https://www.seattleu.edu/newsroom/stories/2021/seattle-u-legend-elgin-baylor-passes-away.html>

### **Text to Text Connections:**

*Feed Your Mind: A Story of August Wilson* by Jen Bryant

*Muhammad Ali: A Champion is Born* by Gene Barretta

*The Youngest Marcher: The Story of Audrey Faye Hendricks* by Cynthia Levinson

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