

Because Claudette

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Synopsis: A picture book about Claudette Colvin, the teen whose activism launched the Montgomery bus boycott, and a celebration of collective action.

Suggested Reading Date: March 2nd- Claudette Colvin Day; March (Women's History Month); February (Black History Month)

Activity Descriptions:

- Discuss the word "because." What does it mean? Why is it important in the title?
- Discuss "activism." How can you be an activist?
- Create a timeline of the events leading up to and including the Montgomery Bus Boycott.
- Research and learn about the life of Claudette Colvin.
- Research and learn about the life of Rosa Parks.
- Compare and contrast the background and impact of Claudette Colvin and Rosa Parks.

Related Websites:

- Tracey Baptiste's website: <https://traceybaptiste.com/>
- Tonya Engel's website: <https://tonyaengel.com/>
- Read Along, Draw Along: Because Claudette - video from Crayola includes author reading of the book and a draw along: www.youtube.com/watch?v=oM4di_3GLqE
- Link to a video interview with Claudette Colvin and a radio interview: <https://www.zinnedproject.org/news/tdih/claurette-colvin/>

Text to Text Connections:

- *She Persisted: Claudette Colvin* by Lesa Cline-Ransome & Chelsea Clinton
- *Claudette Colvin Refuses to Move: Courageous Kids of the Civil Rights Movement* by Ebony Joy Wilkins
- *Pies From Nowhere: How Georgia Gilmore Sustained the Montgomery Bus Boycott* by Dee Romito
- *The Youngest Marcher: The Story of Audrey Faye Hendricks, a Young Civil Right's Activist* by Cynthia Levinson
- *Let The Children March* by Monica Clark-Robinson

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