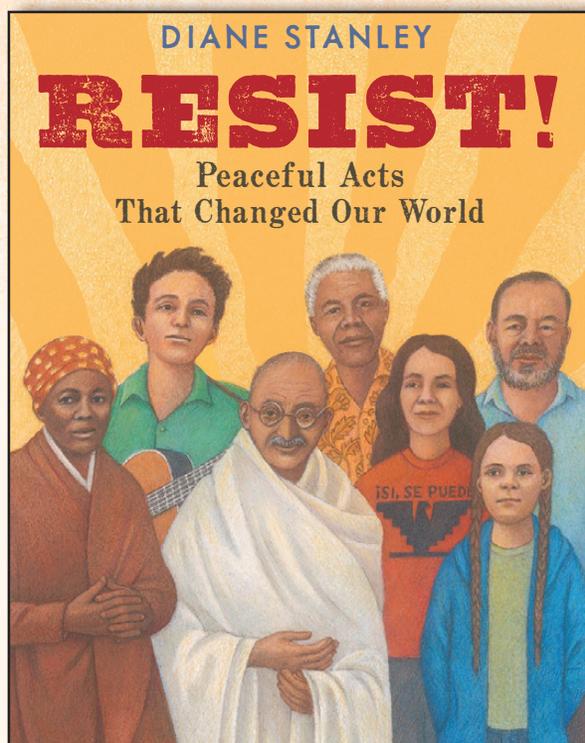


# HOLIDAY HOUSE EDUCATOR'S GUIDE



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NEAL PORTER BOOKS

## *Resist!*

*Peaceful Acts that Changed Our World*

by Diane Stanley

“This book is right on time . . . Like acts of nonviolent resistance themselves, these stories are sometimes quiet, but always powerful.”

—Nikki Grimes, Children’s Literature Legacy Medalist

### ABOUT THE BOOK

As a new wave of protests sweeps the nation and the world, young readers will be inspired by these accounts of activists who refused to be ignored.

From music to marches, from sit-ins to walk-outs, activists throughout history have defended the disenfranchised and demanded reform, refusing to back down even in the face of violent oppression and overwhelming opposition. Today, a new generation of activists has arisen, speaking up in unprecedented numbers against systemic oppression, bias, and injustice.

*Resist!*, a collection of twenty-one brief but comprehensive essays each accompanied by striking artwork and rich supplementary material by Diane Stanley, reminds us of the activists who came before: the men and women who used peaceful resistance and nonviolent protests to make their voices heard.

### CLASSROOM DISCUSSION

- Discuss the meaning of *civil disobedience*. How has civil disobedience contributed to change in the United States and around the world? What is *non-violent resistance*? How is it related to civil disobedience? It takes committed individuals to make a difference. Describe the commitment of each person featured in this book.
- Explain why it takes courage to take a stand for social justice. Discuss the difference between *courage* and *moral acts of courage*. How does it take both courage and moral acts of courage to make the world a better place?



- Harriet Tubman said, “I never ran my train off the track and I never lost a passenger.” What was her figurative track? Who were her passengers? Discuss the symbolic track of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. Why was Harriet Tubman so willing to join their cause? Explain how Irena Sendler’s cause was like Tubman’s Underground Railroad.
- Why was Mohandas Gandhi called “great soul” by the people of India? How did he become a role model for others who sought social justice? Discuss the peaceful sit-in at the Woolworth lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina. How were these young people inspired by Gandhi? How did the migrant farm workers of California model their protests after Gandhi?
- Richard Oaks, a member of the Mohawk Nation, tried to reclaim Alcatraz for his people. He lost the rights of ownership, but his protest was considered a success. What did he gain by protesting? Explain how battles for justice must be won one step at a time. How has this been true for the civil rights movement?
- Define *apartheid*. Compare and contrast apartheid in South Africa to segregation in the United States. Describe Nelson Mandela’s plight to break down racial barriers in South Africa. Many of those featured in this book suffered some type of discrimination. Contrast their fight for civil rights to that of Nelson Mandela.
- The Berlin Wall came down on November 9, 1989. How did the anonymous “Tank Man” of China contribute to this act?
- Young activists have made a tremendous contribution to social justice. Explain how they have effectively used their voices for their specific causes. What did Ryan White contribute after he died that he couldn’t accomplish while he was alive? Discuss the “Never Again” movement. Why and how was it formed? How has technology helped young people spread their message? Explain how Greta Thunberg and her cause became an “international sensation.”
- “We Can Do It” was a slogan used by women who replaced men in the workforce during World War II. It has come to represent the feminist movement in the United States. Discuss the illustration of Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Why is she rolling up her sleeves and flexing her muscles and saying, “We can do it”? How might this slogan apply to anyone fighting for social justice? Discuss how effecting change requires patience and determination.

## BONUS POSTER ACTIVITY

Work in small groups and jot down descriptive words about each person on the poster found at [HolidayHouse.com](http://HolidayHouse.com). Discuss how their faces exhibit peace. Review the Table of Contents of the book. Try to match each person or group to their picture using the information about the time period in which each person or group was active and the country or area of the United States they are from.

Guide created by Pat Scales, retired school librarian and independent consultant, Greenville, South Carolina.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**Diane Stanley**, the author and illustrator of more than fifty books for children, is noted especially for her series of picture book biographies, including *Shaka: King of the Zulus* and *Leonardo da Vinci*. She has twice received both the *Boston Globe–Horn Book Award* and the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators’ Golden Kite Award. She was also the recipient of the *Washington Post/Children’s Book Guild Award for Nonfiction* for the body of her work. She lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico.



## FEATURED IN *Resist! Peaceful Acts That Changed Our World*

Claudette Colvin and Rosa Parks

Mohandas Gandhi

Ruth Bader Ginsburg

The Greensboro Lunch Counter Sit-In

Woody Guthrie

The Hollywood Ten

It Gets Better Project

Larry Itliong, Dolores Huerta, and César Chávez

Martin Luther King Jr.

Nelson Mandela

March for Our Lives

Richard Oakes and the Occupation of Alcatraz

Father Luis Olivares and the Sanctuary Movement

Irena Sendler

Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Tank Man

Greta Thunberg

The Tree-Sitters of Pureora

Harriet Tubman

Ai Weiwei

Ryan White

## CROSS-CURRICULAR WRITING ACTIVITIES

A ballad is a poem or song that narrates a story in short stanzas. Select one person featured in *Resist: Peaceful Acts That Changed Our World* and use the information that Stanley provides to write a ballad about that person.

Read about the First Amendment to the United States Constitution ([history.com/topics/united-states-constitution/first-amendment](https://www.history.com/topics/united-states-constitution/first-amendment)). Then write a short essay that discusses how the fighters for social justice that Stanley documents in the book are practicing their First Amendment rights.

2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, which gave women the right to vote. Take a virtual fieldtrip to the Women's Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, New York ([nps.gov/wori/index.htm](https://www.nps.gov/wori/index.htm)). Make a timeline of events that led to the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment. Include the marches and protests led by the women.

On the North Wall of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in Washington D. C. ([nps.gov/mlkm/learn/quotations.htm](https://www.nps.gov/mlkm/learn/quotations.htm)) is the following quote: "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of convenience and comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." Write a short essay that applies this quote to the Never Again movement. What is the challenge that these teens face? What is the controversy?

