

Birmingham Children's March: Breaking Barriers for Civil Rights

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Group Website

Junior Division

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We chose to research the Birmingham Children's March for Civil Rights because we believe that it is very interesting that children showed so much bravery to march for their rights. We think that the children who marched were a strong example of how you must always stand up for what you believe in. It also shows that even if you are young you have the ability to make changes in society if you are willing to make sacrifices.

We used many methods of research. Among them were various websites. One of those was NBC Nightly News, which was one of our best primary sources. It showed us many different stories from different people regarding their experiences with the Children's March. These people included African American children who actually participated in the march as well as white children who viewed the march. We also went to the Wisconsin Historical Society Library and Archives, where we found a great array of books. The most helpful of which was the section in the book *Carry Me Home* that was entitled The Early Civil Rights Movement 1945-1963. This section showed us specifically what happened during the Children's March and what the Children's March caused to happen, like the bombings that took place because of it. We also found some old newspaper articles in the Wisconsin Historical Society's archives section, which was a great way to see what people thought about the children's march at the time.

We wanted to do a website because we thought it would be a great way to use our writing skills and technology skills at the same time, and we thought that a website would be the best fit for both of us. We both typed about the same amount of the website, and we also both designed the website together. We also thought it would be a good way to show some of the images and video footage from this event which helped to bring the topic to life.

This topic is a very good fit for the National History Day theme. It shows how children can break barriers because the children of Birmingham broke the barrier of segregation by taking action. Their courage led to more work on the issue of segregation and eventual improvements in equality in Alabama. The events of the Children's March in Birmingham were the most important part in the eventual broken barrier of segregation in the United States of America.