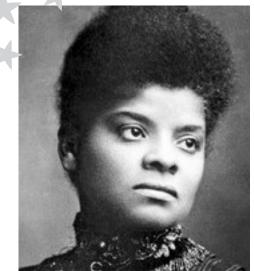
Name _

Ida B. Wells



Ida B. Wells was born on July 16, 1862 in Holly Springs, Mississippi. She had eight siblings. She had been born into slavery but freed by the Emancipation Proclamation. Wells went to school at Rust College in 1878. Her parents and a brother died of yellow fever when she was sixteen. She became a teacher in a Black elementary school.

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Well

Evening Star newspaper in Washington D.C. and wrote under a pen name. She wrote about the racist Jim Crow laws. After a friend of hers was lynched by a mob, she began an anti-lynching campaign. She investigated lynchings using investigative journalist techniques and interviews. Wells published the editorial "Free Speech" which enraged the locals, they burned her press and she moved to Chicago, Illinois.

She continued to write about the horrors of lynching and worked in antilynching campaigns. She worked hard to help women gain the right to vote. She helped organize a black suffrage organization and marched in the first suffrage parade. She was a co-founder of the NAACP.

Wells died of kidney failure on March 25, 1931, in Chicago at the age of 68.

Reading Worksheet

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| * | Ida B | . Wells | | |
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