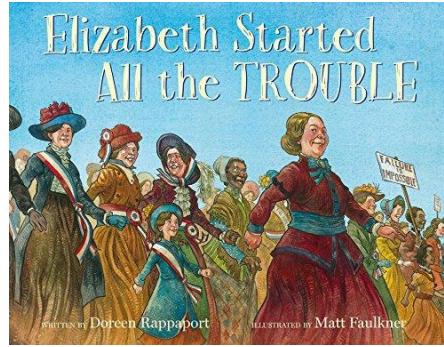


Elizabeth Started All the Trouble



By: Doreen Rappaport

Illustrated: by Matt Faulkner

Topics: Constitutional Law, Who we are as Americans, Rights and responsibilities, Student voice, Community building

Genres: Picture book, American history non-fiction

***Elizabeth Started All the TROUBLE* tells the story of the long, hard battle to win women the right to vote. Spanning over two centuries, it shares the the challenging journey these women faced, and the story of how they got there. From the Declaration of Sentiments to the 19th Amendment, this book shares the full chronology of the Women's Rights movement. This work makes the names of the movement leaders come alive. It shows them as powerful human beings driven by strength and determination.**

Before the Read Aloud:

What is a suffragist? If you were alive during any of the events discussed in the book, do you think you would have been a suffragist? Why or why not? Does your gender determine whether you would or not support the suffragists?

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During the Read Aloud:

1. When women were advocating for the right to vote, many people strongly opposed the idea. Some people were so angry about this idea that they would attack women participating in marches. Why do you think people became so angry at this idea of change? Do you think they were feeling any other emotions that fueled their violent actions? Why do you think some women were arrested, even though they were doing nothing wrong?
2. Towards the end of the book, something very important happened. A year after the suffragists began picketing in front of the White House they were shown a big sign of support that changed the course of history. What was this big sign of support? Why was this support so important? Why did it make such a huge impact on the fight to get women the vote?
3. Although the 19th Amendment passed in 1920, some people were still not granted the right to vote. It wasn't until 1924 when Indigenous people were allowed to vote (and in some states, it took until 1965), 1943 for Asian American immigrants to win this right, and it was not until 1965 that African American women were guaranteed this ability. Why do you think it took so much longer for Indigenous people, Asian Americans, and African American women to receive the right to vote? Do you think the suffragists did enough to fight for the rights of people of other races? Why or why not?

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Take Action Project:

The book ends with “There were still many unfair laws to change so that women could have true equality with men. And we’re still working on it.” What does this ending make you feel? Does it inspire you, or maybe scare you? Can you think of any current laws, expectations, or limitations that are unfair to women that you believe need to be changed?

Or, oral history interview.

Interview an adult woman from your family or community. Share with her some of the ideas and the personalities in the book. Ask her, as a woman, what rights, gender, or wage equity challenges she still faces with men in the workplace. Listen as she speaks and list two to three quotes from what she says to share with the class.

