



Fact Sheet and Frequently Asked Questions

At a glance

Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day is a national day of dialogue observed each November. It honors Ruby's courage and invites young people to discover their own power to create change. Schools and communities choose activities that reflect their students, local needs and safety policies.

In 2025, more than 800,000 participants took part nationwide. Information and educational resources:
<https://RubyBridges.foundation>

Who is Ruby Bridges

Ruby Bridges was six years old when she integrated William Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans on November 14, 1960. Her courage helped change American history. Today, the Ruby Bridges Foundation carries forward her vision of bringing people together.

How did the observance begin

In 2018, AAA School Safety Patrollers at Martin Elementary School in South San Francisco learned about Ruby's story. One student asked, "Why isn't there a day for Ruby?" The inaugural observance brought together 14 schools in San Mateo County. AAA and the Ruby Bridges Foundation partnered in 2021 to support the observance.

When should our school participate

The observance honors Ruby's November 14, 1960, walk and takes place each November. Local dates vary. Choose and clearly publicize your school's date, time and activities; consult the Foundation's current information and any school or state requirements. In 2026, November 14 falls on a Saturday.

Do students have to walk to school

No. Participation does not require a physical walk to school. Schools can organize classroom conversations, an assembly, a student-led program, a community gathering or an accessible commemorative activity on campus.

What can students discuss

Ruby's story provides a starting point for age-appropriate conversations about courage, kindness, empathy, inclusion, bullying and racism. Students can discuss what it means to build bridges across differences and identify one positive action they can take in their school or community.

How do we find resources or register

Visit <https://RubyBridges.foundation> for current participation information and educational resources. Follow the instructions available there. This media kit can be used alongside classroom resources.



How should we plan a walk

Follow school and district safety policies. Confirm supervision, route accessibility, traffic arrangements and weather plans with the appropriate local staff. Offer a meaningful way to participate for students who cannot or do not wish to walk.

Can reporters attend

Each school sets its own media access rules. Reporters should contact the local organizer before arriving. Student interviews, photography and video must follow school policies and applicable permissions.

Will Ruby attend our event

Do not announce or imply Ruby's attendance unless it has been explicitly confirmed. Participation in the observance does not include a visit from Ruby.

Who answers media questions

The school's designated media contact handles local schedules, access, interviews and photographs. Route requests about Ruby or the national observance to the Foundation's designated media contact.

About the Ruby Bridges Foundation

The Ruby Bridges Foundation carries forward Ruby Bridges' lifelong vision of bringing people together to build a more just and harmonious world. Through educational programs and experiences, the Foundation inspires young people to lead with courage, kindness, curiosity and empathy, build bridges across differences and become agents of positive change in their schools and communities.