

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## **Before the Boycott: Riding the Bus Interactive Activity Key**

In what year does the bus ride take place? **1955**

In what city does the bus ride take place? **Montgomery, AL**

In 1955, most schools are **racially segregated**. Schools are either all **black** or all **white**. The **black** schools receive more funding than **white** schools.

In 1955, public transportation is **racially segregated**. **70%** of bus riders are **black**. African Americans sit in the **back**, and whites sit in the **front**.

In 1955, African American **diners** may only sit in certain areas of a **restaurant**, and it is legal to **refuse** to **serve** African American customers.

In 1955, Few African Americans owned **cars**, so they relied on **public transportation**.

In 1955, even churches are **segregated**.

In 1955, landlords refuse to **rent** apartments to African Americans, and realtors will not show or sell **property** to African Americans in white neighborhoods.

Were African Americans treated fairly in 1955? **No**

### How Bus Sections Work:

A **movable** sign was attached to the back of a seat that indicated the line that separated the **races**.

African Americans were required to fill seats in the back, behind the **line or sign**. African Americans could sit in the center of the

Name \_\_\_\_\_

bus as long as no **white passengers** wanted to **occupy** the same **row**.

Bus Rules:

What did an African American passenger have to do after they paid the bus driver?

**He/she had to exit the bus, and re-enter through the rear door of the bus.**

What happened to an African American passenger if a white passenger wanted to sit in his/her row - *even if there were three open seats left?*

**He/she had to move to the back of the bus.**

What did African Americans passengers do when no seats were left?

**They rode standing up.**

What two things could happen if African American passengers refused to move when told to move? **They could be kicked off the bus or arrested.**

What happened after Rosa Parks was arrested? The **Montgomery Bus Boycott**

How long did the boycott last? **About 1 Year**