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GLOSSARY

African American— a way to describe Americans whose relatives may have come from Africa.

awards— rewards or prizes

sports— different games such as baseball, football, and soccer.

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GROWING UP

Jackie Robinson was born in Georgia in 1919. He had four brothers and sisters. In school he played many sports. He was very good, and later played baseball for his job.

A GREAT MAN

He was a great player and won many awards for baseball.

A Timeline of Jackie Robinson's Life

Jackie Robinson is born in Cairo, Georgia in 1919.

Jackie goes to college at UCLA (1939).

Jackie plays for the Kansas City Monarchs in the Negro Leagues (1945).

Jackie joins the Brooklyn Dodgers and helps break the color barrier (1947).
The Man with the Courage to Not Fight Back

But Jackie said that he would not fight back. He would be kind to others. He played the game the best he could and showed everyone he belonged there.

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Segregation

A long time ago, white people and African Americans were kept apart. They had different buses, schools, and even baseball games!

Even water fountains were segregated.
The Men Who Changed Baseball

One man wanted to change that.
He did not think it was right. He wanted whites and African Americans to play in the same baseball game! So, he asked Jackie to play baseball for him. Jackie said yes. It was very hard for Jackie to be the first African American player in baseball. People were not nice to him. They threw things at Jackie and called him names.

Branch Rickey was the general manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers when he signed Jackie Robinson to play.

Jackie Robinson was number 42.