Bright Path Sped

JACKIE ROBINSON

BIOGRAPHY PACKET
GRADES 6-8

23 STUDENT PAGES





My name _____ Date _____

The Five Ws: April 15, 1947

Answer the five Ws about April 15, 1947.

April 15, 1947 is the day in the readings on pages 8 to 11. Answer each question in a full sentence.

Who	Who played his first game for the Dodgers, and who was the Dodgers' president?
What	What did Jackie Robinson do that day?
When	On what date did it happen?
Where	In which city did the Dodgers play?
Why	Why do people remember that day?

One more question I have about April 15, 1947:

Jackie Robinson – The Five Ws: April 15, 1947





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One classroom license

- This file is for one classroom: one teacher, one group of students.
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This is a fillable PDF

- Open it in a PDF reader (Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview, or your browser), click into a line or a box, type, and Save As.
- The name line, every answer box, every ruled work box and every check box on the student pages are type-in fields, and so are the tracker, class grid, team note and family page. You can also print any page and write by hand.
- It works offline. No account, no subscription, no internet connection needed after you download it.

Print at 100 percent

Turn off fit to page and shrink to fit so the ruled lines stay 0.34 inch apart. Every student page is black and white inside a colored border, so it still reads when copied in black and white.

Student work

A filled-in tracker, class grid or team note carries a real student's name. Keep it in the data folder, and use a first name only on any page that leaves your hands.

Not affiliated

This resource is not affiliated with or endorsed by Jackie Robinson, his family or estate, the Jackie Robinson Foundation, Major League Baseball or the Los Angeles Dodgers. It is an original set of readings and activities written for this file.

Using the answer keys

The answer keys are at the back, after the student pages. Pull them out before you copy the student pages for the class, and keep them with your lesson plans.

Need help?

If a field will not behave or a page will not print the way you expect, use Ask a Question on the product page. Every question is read, and a fix ships as a free update.

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PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

How To Read a Page

The parts of a student page, then the page types in the order they come.

The parts of a page

- **The answer box.** A bordered box for a letter or a number. Click it to type, or print and write in it.
- **The ruled work box.** Lines 0.34 inch apart. A short answer gets 4 lines; the main idea and why-it-mattered boxes get 3 and the paragraph page gets 18. It types and prints.
- **The check box.** True or false, Rickey or Robinson: click or mark one.
- **The reading.** A short passage with the dates at the top, a main idea box, a why-it-mattered box (Reading 2) and the checks.
- **The compare and five Ws pages.** Page 15 sorts six facts by person; page 16 answers who, what, when, where and why about April 15, 1947.
- **The cut line.** Six pieces in a 3 by 2 grid, each 2.4 by 1.25 inches, edge to edge: one cut across and two down.

Page type	What it looks like	What the student does
Check, Before You Read, Words to Know	3 pages, 17 items	A five-question check for before and after; true or false on the big picture; match eight words to their meanings.
Reading 1 and Reading 2 (A to C)	9 checks	Read, write the main idea (and why it mattered), answer the checks with a letter.
Fact file, timeline, cause and effect	3 pages, 14 items	Fill the fact file from a bank; write the date for each event; write what happened next for 4 causes.
Compare points of view, five Ws	2 pages, 6 items	Check Rickey, Both or Robinson for 6 facts; answer 5 questions about April 15, 1947.
Draw his story, Think It Through, claim-evidence-reasoning	4 panels, 6 questions	Draw 4 panels; 4 lines per question; a plan and an 18-line paragraph.
Quiz, Cut and Paste, Exit Tickets	12 items, 18 pieces, 4 tickets	A quiz in two parts, three cut-and-paste mats (times, places, put in order) and four exit tickets.

Untimed, unscored on the page

No student page has a timer or a score on it. The keys and the tracker are for you. The answer keys are on pages 28 to 32.

A short account, not a full textbook

Each reading is a summary in plain words. It is not a complete biography, and it is not tied to any particular standard. Add your own library book or article for more depth.

Printing and the type-in fields

Every page prints clean in black and white. The name line, every answer box, every ruled box and every check box are type-in fields in any PDF reader: click one, type, then save. This is a fillable PDF, not a slideshow or a word-processor file.

Open answers

The fact file, timeline and compare pages have one right answer each. The cause and effect page, the five Ws page, the draw page, short answers, the exit tickets and the paragraph are open. The keys give a sample and what to look for. Accept any answer that is true to the readings and explains its reason.

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Before and After Check



Write a letter in the Before box now and the After box when you finish.

Write the letter of the best answer. Guess if you are not sure. Fill in **Before** now, and **After** when you finish the unit.

1. What sport is Jackie Robinson known for?
   - **A** Soccer
   - **B** Baseball
   - **C** Golf

   Before ☐ After ☐

2. In what year did Jackie Robinson play his first game for the Brooklyn Dodgers?
   - **A** 1947
   - **B** 1919
   - **C** 1972

   Before ☐ After ☐

3. What was the name of the Dodgers' president who signed him?
   - **A** Branch Rickey
   - **B** Larry Doby
   - **C** Babe Ruth

   Before ☐ After ☐

4. In which city was Robinson born?
   - **A** Cairo
   - **B** Pasadena
   - **C** Brooklyn

   Before ☐ After ☐

5. In what year did Jackie Robinson die?
   - **A** 1947
   - **B** 1972
   - **C** 1997

   Before ☐ After ☐

One thing I already know about Jackie Robinson is...

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Words to Know



Write the letter of each meaning.

1	rookie		A	professional baseball leagues for Black players when the major leagues kept them out
2	major leagues		B	keeping people apart by race, in places such as schools and teams
3	officer		C	a leader in the military
4	segregation		D	the highest group of professional baseball teams in the United States
5	civil rights		E	the rights of every person to be treated fairly under the law
6	Negro Leagues		F	an unfair rule or custom that kept people out because of their race
7	Most Valuable Player		G	a player in his or her first season
8	color barrier		H	an award for the most valuable player in a league for one season

Use two of the words in one sentence about Jackie Robinson.

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Reading 2A: Growing Up and the Army



Read the story. Then write the main idea and why it mattered.

1919 to 1942

Jackie Robinson was born on January 31, 1919, in Cairo, Georgia. When he was a baby, his family moved to Pasadena, California. He loved sports and was good at many of them. At UCLA, he played baseball, basketball, football and track, and he was the first athlete at the school to earn a letter in all four. In those years, many places had laws and customs that kept Black and white people apart. This kept-apart system is called segregation, and baseball had its own version: Black players were kept out of the major leagues. In 1942, Robinson entered the U.S. Army. He became an officer, a leader in the military, with the rank of second lieutenant.

Main idea: What is this reading mostly about?

Why it mattered: Why is this important to his story?

Check what you read. Write the letter in the box.

1. How many sports did Robinson play at UCLA?
   - **A** Two
   - **B** Three
   - **C** Four

2. What did Robinson become in the U.S. Army?
   - **A** An officer
   - **B** A pilot
   - **C** A cook

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Reading 2C: Breaking the Barrier



Read the story. Then write the main idea and why it mattered.

1947 to 1997

On April 15, 1947, Jackie Robinson played his first game for the Brooklyn Dodgers. He became the first Black player in the major leagues in the modern era. This is called breaking the color barrier. Some fans and players treated him unfairly, but he kept playing, and he won the first Rookie of the Year award in 1947. Other Black players soon joined major league teams. In 1949, he was named the National League's Most Valuable Player. In 1955, the Dodgers won the World Series. Robinson retired from baseball after the 1956 season, and he worked in business and for civil rights. In 1962, he became the first Black player in the Baseball Hall of Fame. He died on October 24, 1972. In 1997, Major League Baseball retired his number, 42, for every team.

Main idea: What is this reading mostly about?

Why it mattered: Why is this important to his story?

Check what you read. Write the letter in the box.

1. What did Jackie Robinson win in 1947? ☐
   - **A** The first Rookie of the Year award
   - **B** The Hall of Fame vote
   - **C** A medal in track

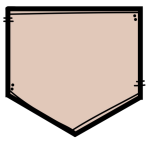
2. What did Major League Baseball do in 1997? ☐
   - **A** Retired his number, 42, for every team
   - **B** Started the World Series
   - **C** Changed the rules of the World Series

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Timeline: Dates



Write the date for each event.

1949	1919	1962	April 1947	1955	1945

Pick each date from the bank. Use the readings to help you.

1. Hall of Fame _____
2. Born in Georgia _____
3. World Series Win _____
4. First Dodgers Game _____
5. Kansas City Monarchs _____
6. Most Valuable Player _____

Which event happened because of an earlier one? Explain.

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Rickey, Robinson or Both



Read each one. Check Rickey, Both or Robinson.

Two people helped change baseball in 1947: Branch Rickey and Jackie Robinson. Check **Rickey** or **Robinson** if a sentence fits only one of them. Check **Both** if it fits both.

		Rickey	Both	Robinson
1	Was the president of the Brooklyn Dodgers.	☐	☐	☐
2	Played for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947.	☐	☐	☐
3	Agreed that Robinson would keep his temper when insulted.	☐	☐	☐
4	Heard insults from some fans and players during games.	☐	☐	☐
5	Chose Robinson to be the first Black player on the team.	☐	☐	☐
6	Believed that Black players belonged in the major leagues.	☐	☐	☐

How might Rickey and Robinson each have felt on April 15, 1947? Use one fact.

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____

Think It Through A

Answer each question in full sentences.

Use facts from the readings to answer.

1. Who was Jackie Robinson, and what is he known for?

2. What happened on April 15, 1947, and why does it matter?

3. Why did Branch Rickey ask Robinson to keep his temper?

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____

Claim, Evidence, Reasoning



Plan your answer. Write a claim, evidence and reasoning.

Question: Why was April 15, 1947 an important day in Jackie Robinson's story?
Use facts from the readings, pages 8 to 11.

April 15, 1947 was important because ____. For example, ____. This shows that ____ because ____.

Claim: Why was April 15, 1947 important?

Evidence: Give two facts from the readings.

Reasoning: Explain how your facts prove your claim.

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Quiz, Part A

Read each one. Write the letter of the best answer.

Write the letter of the best answer in the box.

1. In which state was Jackie Robinson born?
   - **A** Georgia
   - **B** Texas
   - **C** Ohio

2. At which college did he play four sports?
   - **A** UCLA
   - **B** Harvard
   - **C** Ohio State

3. Who signed Robinson to the Dodgers organization in 1945?
   - **A** Branch Rickey
   - **B** Larry Doby
   - **C** Babe Ruth

4. Which of these happened first?
   - **A** He won the Rookie of the Year award.
   - **B** He played for the Kansas City Monarchs.
   - **C** He entered the Hall of Fame.

5. What does segregation mean?
   - **A** Keeping people apart by race
   - **B** Playing a team sport
   - **C** Winning an award

6. What is a rookie?
   - **A** A player in his or her first season
   - **B** A team's manager
   - **C** A kind of baseball bat

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Cut and Paste 1

Cut out the six pieces. Paste each one under the right time.

Paste each piece under the time it belongs to. The pieces are facts from Jackie Robinson's story.

Before 1947	
In 1947	
After 1947	

Cut on the dashed lines: six pieces, one cut across and two down.

Born in Cairo, Georgia, in 1919.	Named National League Most Valuable Player in 1949.	Played his first game for the Brooklyn Dodgers.
Played for the Kansas City Monarchs in 1945.	Entered the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962.	Won the first Rookie of the Year award.

Which piece was easiest to place? Why?

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Cut and Paste 3

Cut out the six pieces. Paste them in order.

Paste the events in order, first to last. The timeline page (13) can help.

First	Second	Third

Fourth	Fifth	Sixth

Cut on the dashed lines: six pieces, one cut across and two down.

He plays his first game for the Brooklyn Dodgers.	Jackie Robinson is born in Cairo, Georgia.	He enters the Baseball Hall of Fame.
He plays for the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro Leagues.	The Dodgers win the World Series.	He is named the National League's Most Valuable Player.

Which event do you think was the hardest for him? Why?

PREVIEW

Answer Key: Timeline, Quiz, Sorts

The timeline page, the quiz and the three cut-and-paste mats.

Timeline: Dates page 13

#	Event	Date
1	Hall of Fame	1962
2	Born in Georgia	1919
3	World Series Win	1955
4	First Dodgers Game	April 1947
5	Kansas City Monarchs	1945
6	Most Valuable Player	1949

Quiz pages 22, 23

#	Starts with	Answer
1	In which state was Jackie …	A: Georgia
2	At which college did he …	A: UCLA
3	Who signed Robinson to the …	A: Branch Rickey
4	Which of these happened first?	B: He played for the Kansas …
5	What does segregation mean?	A: Keeping people apart by race
6	What is a rookie?	A: A player in his or …
7	Which team did Robinson play …	A: Brooklyn Dodgers
8	When did Robinson play his …	B: April 15, 1947
9	What does breaking the color …	A: Ending an unfair rule that …
10	Which award did Robinson win …	B: National League Most Valuable Player
11	Which team did Robinson play …	A: Montreal Royals
12	In what year did Robinson …	C: 1962

Cut and Paste 1 page 24

Piece (row, column)	Box
r1 c1: Born in Cairo, Georgia, in …	Before 1947
r1 c2: Named National League Most Valuable …	After 1947
r1 c3: Played his first game for …	In 1947
r2 c1: Played for the Kansas City …	Before 1947
r2 c2: Entered the Baseball Hall of …	After 1947
r2 c3: Won the first Rookie of …	In 1947

Cut and Paste 2 page 25

Piece (row, column)	Box
r1 c1: Played baseball, basketball, football and …	At UCLA
r1 c2: Played shortstop for the Kansas …	Before Brooklyn
r1 c3: Was named the National League's …	With the Dodgers
r2 c1: Played for the Montreal Royals …	Before Brooklyn
r2 c2: Helped the team win the …	With the Dodgers
r2 c3: Earned a letter in all …	At UCLA

Cut and Paste 3 page 26

Piece (row, column)	Box
r1 c1: He plays his first game …	Third
r1 c2: Jackie Robinson is born in …	First
r1 c3: He enters the Baseball Hall …	Sixth
r2 c1: He plays for the Kansas …	Second
r2 c2: The Dodgers win the World …	Fifth
r2 c3: He is named the National …	Fourth

Reading the sort keys

Read each strip left to right, top row first. On Cut and Paste 3 the boxes are first to sixth, so the box is the event's place in time. Cut and Paste 2 sorts by where it happened: at UCLA, before Brooklyn or with the Dodgers.

PREVIEW

Answer Key: Compare and Five Ws

Pages 15 and 16. The compare page has one right box for each fact; the five Ws page takes any answer that is true to the readings.

Rickey, Robinson or Both page 15

#	Starts with	Check this box
1	Was the president of the Brooklyn Dodgers.	Rickey
2	Played for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947.	Robinson
3	Agreed that Robinson would keep his temper when …	Both
4	Heard insults from some fans and players during …	Robinson
5	Chose Robinson to be the first Black player …	Rickey
6	Believed that Black players belonged in the major …	Both

The Five Ws: April 15, 1947 page 16

Question	A good answer says
Who	Jackie Robinson played his first game; Branch Rickey was the president.
What	He played his first game for the Brooklyn Dodgers and became the first Black player in the major leagues in the modern era.
When	April 15, 1947.
Where	Brooklyn, New York.
Why	It broke the color barrier: a Black player played in the major leagues in the modern era.

How the answers work

- **Compare page:** being the Dodgers' president or choosing Robinson goes with Rickey; playing for the Dodgers or hearing insults during games goes with Robinson. Agreeing that Robinson would keep his temper, or believing that Black players belonged in the major leagues, goes in Both. The writing box is open.
- **Five Ws:** the answers come only from the readings: Robinson played his first game, and Branch Rickey was the Dodgers' president. Accept any wording that gives the same fact. The Dodgers played in Brooklyn, New York.

PREVIEW

Jackie Robinson Tracker

One student, every scored page. Filled example: page 37.

Student _____ Teacher _____ Month _____

Page	Page type and set	Items	Right	Date	Notes
5	Before and After Check	5			
6	Before You Read	4			
7	Words to Know	8			
8	Reading 1: The Short Read	3			
9	Reading 2A: Growing Up and the Army	2			
10	Reading 2B: Rickey and the Dodgers	2			
11	Reading 2C: Breaking the Barrier	2			
12	Fact File	8			
13	Timeline: Dates	6			
15	Rickey, Robinson or Both	6			
22	Quiz, Part A	6			
23	Quiz, Part B	6			
24	Cut and Paste 1	6			
25	Cut and Paste 2	6			
26	Cut and Paste 3	6			

How to fill this in

Write how many items the student got right with no prompt, and the date. A blank means not tried yet, never wrong. There are 76 items on the 15 scored pages. Answer keys: pages 28 to 32. Filled example: page 37.

This month we are working on (your own standard or wording)

PREVIEW

Team Note

Use this page between team meetings or when a student moves classes, to hand off what changed without writing a note from scratch. Everything below is observable, with a blank for the number or the wording your team already uses.

Student _____ Team member _____ Date _____

Page type	Covered since last note (Y/N)	Items right	Still blank
Before and After Check			
Readings			
Words and Fact File			
Timeline			
Compare			
Quiz			
Cut and paste			

What I saw (observable, not a conclusion)

- Named the main idea of ___ of ___ readings without a prompt.
- Put the events in order on ___ of ___ (page 26).
- Checked the right box on ___ of ___ facts on the compare page (page 15): yes / no / with a reminder.
- Used a fact from a reading in the claim, evidence and reasoning pages (20, 21): yes / no / with a reminder.

Next step

- Next page or set: ___, because ___ (what you saw).
- What to try in another class or at home: ___.
- What to keep doing because it is working: ___.
- Anything for the team meeting to decide: ___ (this page records what happened, never a label or a plan).

Summary, in one or two sentences, for whoever reads this next

A filled-in line, for reference

"Matched 6 of 8 words on Words to Know with no prompt on 10/3. Next step: use rookie and officer in sentences about Jackie Robinson." That is the level of detail this page is built for. It matches the filled example on page 37.

PREVIEW

Jordan's Tracker (Invented Student)

Jordan L. is invented; nothing on this page describes a real student. The blank tracker is on page 33.

Student: Jordan L. (an invented student)

Teacher: Ms. Ellis (invented)

Month: September to October

Page	Page type and set	Items	Right	Date	Notes
5	Before and After Check	5	3	9/22	Guessed the first answer
6	Before You Read	4	4	9/23	-
7	Words to Know	8	6	10/3	Mixed up rookie and officer
8	Reading 1: The Short Read	3	3	9/24	-
9	Reading 2A: Growing Up and the Army	2	2	9/25	-
10	Reading 2B: Rickey and the Dodgers	2	1	9/29	Mixed up the Monarchs and the Royals
11	Reading 2C: Breaking the Barrier	2	2	10/1	-
12	Fact File	8	-	-	-
13	Timeline: Dates	6	-	-	-
15	Rickey, Robinson or Both	6	5	10/6	Checked Both for a Robinson-only fact
22	Quiz, Part A	6	-	-	-
23	Quiz, Part B	6	-	-	-
24	Cut and Paste 1	6	-	-	-
25	Cut and Paste 2	6	-	-	-
26	Cut and Paste 3	6	-	-	-

How to read it

Jordan L. has done **8 of 15** scored pages and got **26 of 32** items right with no prompt. **4** pages were all right and **4** carry a note. Every number comes from the table.

What the table points to

The lowest page is Reading 2B: Rickey and the Dodgers (1 of 2). That is where the next practice goes. The 7 pages left blank are not tried yet, never wrong.

PREVIEW

Binder Cover

Slide this into the front of a binder. Type a name in the two fields or write it by hand. The divider tabs and a spine label to cut out are on the next page (page 40).

Social Studies - Biography and Reading

JACKIE ROBINSON

Biography and Reading

- His Life
- Baseball
- 1947
- Legacy
- Words

Teacher _____

Class or student _____

PREVIEW