Name: _____ Date: _____

BILLIE JEAN KING



Read the biographical passage about Billie Jean King and answer the questions.

Billie Jean King is a hero both on and off the tennis court. She was born in California and loved sports from a very young age. Billie Jean wasn't just any athlete; she became one of the greatest tennis players of all time!

Billie Jean won a lot of tennis matches, including 39 Grand Slam titles. That's a huge deal because Grand Slam tournaments are some of the most important competitions in tennis. But what makes Billie Jean even more special is how she fought for women to be treated fairly in sports and everywhere else.

A long time ago, women tennis players didn't earn as much money as men, even when they worked just as hard. Billie Jean thought this was wrong, so she stood up and said something about it. She played in a famous tennis match called the "Battle of the Sexes" against a man named Bobby Riggs. Many people watched this match, and Billie Jean won! This victory was about more than just a tennis game; it showed the world that women are strong and deserve equal respect and pay.

Billie Jean didn't stop there. She helped start a special tennis tour for women, making sure female athletes could earn a living from playing sports. She also worked to make it easier for girls and boys to play sports in school, helping pass a law called Title IX. This law says that girls and boys should have the same chances to play sports and do other activities at school.

Billie Jean King teaches us all a valuable lesson: it's important to stand up for what you believe in and to treat everyone equally, no matter if they're a boy or a girl. She showed that with hard work and courage, you can change the world for the better.

Use the image

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Who is Billie Jean King, and what sport did she play?

2 How did Billie Jean King help women in sports?

3 What lesson can we learn from Billie Jean King about equality and fairness?

Use the Village