Name: _____ Date: _____

MAYA ANGELOU



Read the biographical passage about Maya Angelou and answer the questions.

Maya Angelou (1928 – 2014) was an American writer, poet, and speaker. She was born in St. Louis, Missouri, and given the name Marguerite Johnson. Growing up, Maya faced many challenges. She lived in a time when people were treated unfairly because of their skin color, and she had to learn to stand strong against these unfair rules.

When Maya was eight years old, she went through something very scary and sad that made her stop talking. But Maya found comfort and joy in reading books and discovering the power of words. She read all kinds of books, from fairy tales to poetry, and she started to write her own stories and poems.

As she got older, Maya's voice became louder and clearer. She shared her stories with the world in her book "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings." This book talks about her childhood and how she overcame her fears to speak out for what is right. Maya's words were like a song that could make people feel hope and courage.

Maya Angelou didn't just write books. She also gave speeches, taught at universities, and even helped leaders who wanted to make America a fairer place for everyone. She was like a teacher to the whole country, teaching about love, kindness, and the importance of treating all people with respect. Maya Angelou's life was a bright light that continues to shine. She taught us that no matter what we go through, our voices can be powerful tools for change.

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 What did Maya do when she stopped speaking, and how did it help her?

2 What is the title of Maya Angelou's famous book, and what story does it tell?

3 Besides writing, what other ways did Maya Angelou help teach and inspire people?

Use the Village