

WOMEN AND GIRLS
HAVE BEEN
SHAKING
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SHAKING THINGS UP

14 YOUNG WOMEN WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

BY SUSAN HOOD

ILLUSTRATED BY VARIOUS ARTISTS

ABOUT THE BOOK

The author, Susan Hood, writes: "Women and girls have been shaking things up for a long time, resisting those who would box them in. Here are fourteen inspiring young rebels (one just six years old, another only thirteen) who broke down walls to pursue their interests, talents, and rights. They fought fires, discovered prehistoric animals, circled the globe, braved Nazis, championed sports, changed the way we eat, integrated schools, improved medicine, and reached for the skies. The world is a better place for all of us because they dared to step out of the box."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- * How did **MOLLY WILLIAMS** become the first female firefighter? When did the next woman become a New York City firefighter?
- Why did the author arrange the text in an unusual way when she wrote about **MARY ANNING**? How did thirteen-year-old Mary support her family? What is a paleontologist?
- * What was **NELLIE BLY'S** profession? How did she travel around the world? What did she do during World War I?
- Why did the doctor suggest that **ANNETTE KELLERMAN** take up swimming? Why was she arrested?
- * Why was **PURA BELPRÉ** an important librarian? What did she do when she could not find enough Spanish stories in the library?
- Why was **FRIDA KAHLO** unable to become a doctor? What did she do instead? To what museum was she the first twentieth-century Mexican artist to sell a painting?
- * Where did **JACQUELINE** and **EILEEN NEARNE** grow up? What brave acts did they do? What characteristics made them effective special agents? What happened to Eileen during World War II?
- What is segregation? What was **RUBY BRIDGES'S** role in ending segregation? How many children were in her first-grade class? Why?
- * What did **FRANCES MOORE LAPPÉ** teach us about hunger around the world? How would her ideas help both people and the planet?
- What did **MAE JEMISON** want to be when she grew up? How did her kindergarten teacher react to this idea? What inspired her to become a scientist?
- * What famous memorial was designed by **MAYA LIN**? Why was her design unique? If the design competition had not been "blind," do you think Maya would have won? Why or why not?
- How did **ANGELA ZHANG'S** curiosity shape her future? What was her important discovery?
- * Why was **MALALA YOUSAFZAI** shot by the Taliban? The author writes that "only her fear died that day. She said, 'Strength, power, and courage were born.'" What does this mean?

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Learn More! Ask children to choose one of the women in this book to research more thoroughly. Have them write an informational report about her and present to the class.

Amazing Acrostics. Ask students to choose one of the women in this book and develop an acrostic poem about her by first writing vertically down the page the woman's name or a word associated with her. Next, have them describe the woman or what she is known for. For example, a poem about Annette Kellerman might look like this:

*Swimming through the
Wild waves
Incredible strength
Moving through the water . . .*

My Hero! Ask the children to review the accounts of the fourteen women in this story. Have them "turn and talk" with a partner about which woman they most admire. Have them discuss why she is so inspirational and what they can do in their own lives to emulate this woman's heroism.

