

BECAUSE
OF THEM
WE CAN

BOX

JUST FOR KIDS

BECAUSE OF SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

AGES 5 - 8



BOTWC MINI POSING AS
SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

Be a
Catalyst
for Change!

CHISELED CHISHOLM: UNBOSSSED AND UNBOUGHT



Shirley Anita St. Hill Chisholm was the first African American woman in **Congress** (1968) and the first woman and African American to seek the **nomination** for President of the United States.

Shirley Chisholm was born in Brooklyn, New York on November 30, 1924. Her parents were from the Caribbean, she had a father from Guyana and a mother from Barbados. She was on the **debate team** at Brooklyn College. Shirley was excited about the change she could make with her voice and ideas. Her teachers believed that she could go into **politics**.

First, Shirley Chisholm worked as a school teacher. She went to college at Columbia University and worked with The New York City Division of Day Care. Aware of **inequality**, she joined **League of**

Women Voters, the **National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)**, the **Urban League**, as well as the **Democratic Party Club** in Bedford-Stuyvesant (Bedstuy), Brooklyn.

In 1968 Chisholm won a seat in **Congress**. People began to call her “Fighting Shirley.” Her work supported equality, people in poverty, and ending the Vietnam War. She also became the first Black woman and the second woman ever to serve on the powerful **House Rules Committee**.

Shirley Chisholm’s run for President was not easy. She was blocked from being in TV debates, and after taking legal action, was only allowed to make just one speech. Still, students, women, and our people followed and supported her! They called these people “The Chisholm Train.” She did not win but received many delegate votes.



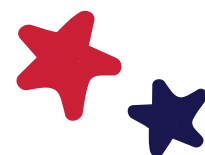
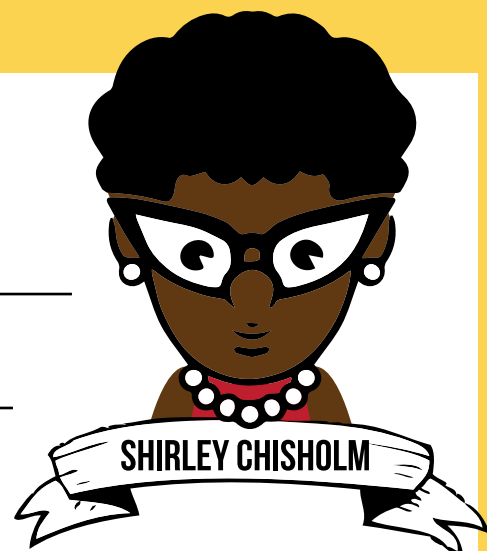
THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE



Chisholm left Congress in 1983. She taught at Mount Holyoke College and cofounded the National Political Congress of Black Women. Chisholm said, “I want to be remembered as a woman ... who dared to be a **catalyst** of change.”

READ & WRITE

1. WRITE ABOUT TWO JOBS SHIRLEY CHISHOLM HELD.



2. WHY DID SHIRLEY CHISHOLM HAVE TROUBLE RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT?

UNBOUGHT
AND *☒*
UNBOSSSED

GLOSSARY

Nomination: propose or formally enter as a candidate for election or for an honor or award.

Minorities: a relatively small group of people, especially one commonly discriminated against in a community, society, or nation, differing from others in race, religion, language, or political persuasion.

Terms: a fixed or limited period for which something, e.g., office, imprisonment, or investment, lasts or is intended to last.

Catalyst: a person or thing that sets an event in motion.

Debate: argue about (a subject), especially in a formal manner.

Debate Team: a group that competes against other teams in formal debates.

Politics: the activities of governments concerning the political relations between countries.

Delegate: a person sent or authorized to represent others, in particular an elected representative sent to a conference.

U.S. House of Representatives: the lower house of the United States Congress. The House and the Senate work together on bills to give to the president to put into law.

Congress: a national legislative body, especially that of the US, which meets at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., was established by the Constitution of 1787 and is made up of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Inequality: difference in size, degree, circumstances, etc.; lack of equality.

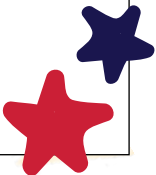
SPEECH



DIRECTIONS: Read the speech excerpt (or watch it on Youtube) by Kid President about “How to Change the World”. As you read, think about what stands out to you and in the space below write, draw, and express your ideas.



KID PRESIDENT’S WORDS	NOTES, DOODLE, LEAVE YOUR MARK!
<p>There are lots of ideas about how you can change the world?</p> <p>Some people think you should just complain about it. That won’t change the world, it will just make it bad.</p> <p>Some people think you have lots of money money; make it rain everywhere you go, holla for a dollar!</p> <p>Some people think you have to be really loud and yell a lot. It’s like with a bullhorn shouting, "Hey you! Yeah you! Do it my way! Right now!!" You heard.</p> <p>Other people choose to just make fun of everything; that is dumb, that is dumb, everyone is dumb. It is easier to make fun of stuff, but it’s cooler to make stuff.</p> <p>Some people think changing the world can only be done by just the smartest person in the world - just put him in a room, they will figure it out. The solution to world hunger? Food. (Wow, that was like so amazing.)</p> <p>Some people see the bad in the world and they just decide to ignore it. But that won’t help anything.</p> <p>Some people will think you have to be really famous, "super cool." Lots of people think you have to be really powerful to make a difference, like being Mayor or a Senator or a President.</p> <p>But the truth is, a title doesn’t make you more important - the world is changed by YOU! It’s one person filled with love and they just have to live it out, so they do something awesome! Then that person is filled with love, and they do something awesome. And it just goes on and on and on and on.</p>	



KIERA FOR PRESIDENT!



DIRECTIONS: Becoming the president takes many steps! Read the story about how Kiera, an elementary school student, becomes class president. Use the maze on the next page to think about how each step she takes helps her to reach her goal.



It was a bright, sunny day at 'Dreams Elementary School'. Kiera was sitting at the lunch table with her friends talking about how she loved basketball, "I want to try out for the team," she said. "But there isn't a team for anyone but boys," said her best friend.

Kiera felt very sad about this. She thought about it all day in school and she couldn't focus. When the bell rang after school, she went to the basketball court and dribbled the ball for a while to get her mind off things.

At home, she couldn't sleep. She decided that when she went to school the next day she would talk to her teacher.

"Ms. Hope, why don't we have a girl's basketball team or a team for anyone besides boys?" Ms. Hope replied, "There was only interest in a boys' basketball team."

Kiera walked away but she wasn't sure about this. At lunch, she asked her friends if they liked basketball and they all said yes.

"I have an idea," she said. "I am going to write a list of anyone's name who wants to play basketball and give it to the principal."

She went around at lunch and collected twenty-five names of people who wanted to join the basketball team.

After school, she went home and watched a movie about being a president and that sparked an idea.

The next morning, she ran to her parents excitedly in the kitchen, "Mom and Dad, I want to be class president!" "That's great honey," said her father, "You can do it!"

At school, she ran up to the principal and gave her the list of names, "Principal Grace, I want to be class president!" "That's great, Kiera! You told me just in time! The elections are tomorrow. You need to write a speech."

Kiera had no idea how to write a speech or what she was going to write about.

When she got home, she did not write her speech. She played video games. She played for two hours, with almost not enough time to finish her speech, but then she heard a sound in the backyard. Bounce. Swish. Bounce. Swish.

She looked outside her window and saw a young girl playing basketball. She was inspired and wrote the first line of her speech, "Everyone deserves to play basketball..." This was the same line she read when she stood on stage, in front of the entire school, the next day. When her speech was done, the class stood up and clapped for her.

"Go, Kiera!"
"Awesome!"

At the end of the day, the principal read out the names for each class president, "And last but not least...Kiera is the 2020 Class President for Ms. Hope's class! Kiera smiled from ear to ear. She did it!"



QUESTIONS: Describe the steps that Kiera takes to become class president.
Who deserves to play basketball? Who deserves to be president?



KIERA'S JOURNEY



IF THEY DON'T GIVE you
A SEAT AT THE TABLE,
BRING A FOLDING CHAIR.
- SHIRLEY CHISHOLM

TAKE THE PLEDGE

I WILL HONOR
THE SACRIFICES OF
MY ANCESTORS.

I WILL BELIEVE
IN ME.

I WILL PURSUE
MY DREAMS.

I WILL HELP
OTHERS ALONG
THE WAY.