

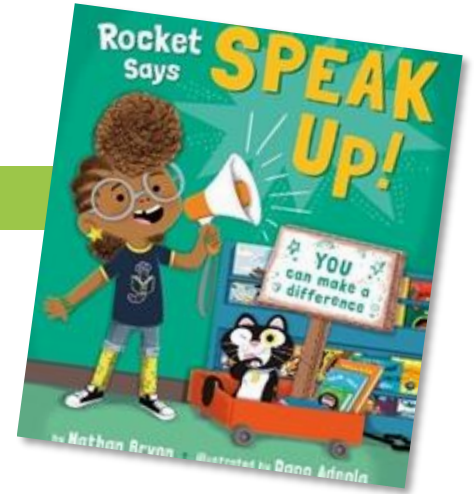
Rocket Says Speak Up!

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Change, Activism

Book Brief: When Rocket finds out that her town's library is closing, she knows something must be done. Inspired by the activism of Rosa Parks, Rocket rallies support from her peers, and together they lead a peaceful protest that spreads awareness and raises enough money to save their beloved library.

Author:
Nathan Byron
Illustrator:
Dapo Adeola



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Read the title and the message on the small sign on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they see, think, or wonder about the story.

Vocabulary: [Vocabulary Guide](#)

Prior Knowledge: Ask your students to think about people who changed the world. Write them on a board and then ask students do they think a kid could change the world they live in. Then explain that they will learn about a girl who does just that.

Purpose for Reading: “As we read, think about Rocket made a change in her community!”

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What do you notice in the library with Rocket?
- Have you ever experienced something you felt was unfair?
- How do you think the closing of the library made Rocket feel?
- Do you think that the protest will make a difference?
- Who came to visit Rocket after the protest goes on TV?
- What happened to the library and the librarian at the end?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: How does Rocket react to something she felt was unfair? How did this help her and her community? Talk to one partner, and then after two minutes, switch to a second partner and discuss.

Extending Our Thinking: What can we do to make a difference like Rocket has? Ask students to think about small ways they can make their school better!

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.