

Learning About Dorothy Pitman Hughes

Student Directions: Read the passage. Use the vocabulary definitions to help you. Next, answer the questions below.



Dorothy Pitman Hughes was born in 1938 and grew up in Lumpkin, Georgia. When Dorothy was only 10 years old, her father was badly beaten because he was black. Dorothy decided she wanted to fight against **racism** because of how African Americans were being treated. She believed all people should be treated equal.

Vocabulary

co-found: to start an organization with someone else

equal rights: the same basic rights or freedoms

Gloria Steinem: one of the leaders of the American feminist movement

injustice: unfair treatment

racism: poor treatment or violence against people because of their race

As a young woman, Dorothy noticed that many parents could not pay for childcare. She wanted kids to be safe and parents to be able to work. So Dorothy started a daycare in her home to help. She went on to **co-found** New York City's Agency for Child Development. She also helped children by creating community food gardens.

In the early 1970s, Dorothy began working with **Gloria Steinem**. Dorothy and Gloria believed that all people should have **equal rights**. They traveled the world and spoke up against **injustice**. They wanted to make the world a better place.

Dorothy Pitman Hughes is an important civil rights activist, entrepreneur, author, and feminist. She has spent her life working toward a brighter future for everyone. What will you do to help your community?

Why did Dorothy want to fight against racism?

One reason Dorothy wanted to fight against racism was her father was beaten because of the color of his skin

Name _____

Date _____

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Answers will vary, but may include:

Dorothy helped children by...

starting a daycare in her home

Dorothy helped children by...

creating gardens to feed hungry children

Answers will vary, but may include:

Write about it

They traveled the world together and talked about taking action to make the world a better place.

Draw a picture

Answers will vary

Think about some of the inspirational people in your life. How do they make the world a better place? How can you make the world a better place?

Answers will vary.
