MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.'S NONVIOLENT PROTESTS AGAINST RACIAL INEQUALITY INSPIRED MANY PEOPLE DURING THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT OF THE 1960S. IN 1963, STUDENTS AND FACULTY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI'S TOUGALOO COLLEGE DECIDED TO FIGHT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS BY STAGING A SIT-IN PROTEST AT THE WHITE'S-ONLY LUNCH COUNTER OF THEIR LOCAL WOOLWORTH STORE. THE REACTION IT CAUSED SHOCKED THE COUNTRY, AND THE JACKSON SIT-IN IS NOW CONSIDERED A MAJOR MOMENT IN THE FIGHT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS.

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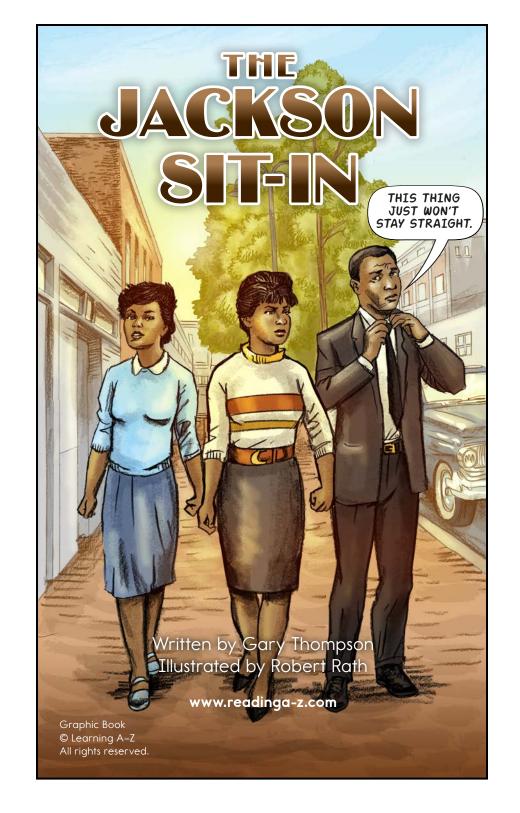
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THE JACKSON SIT-IN













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THE JACKSON SIT-IN PROTEST ENERGIZED THE LOCAL CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, AND ITS SHOCKING IMAGERY CAUGHT THE ATTENTION OF THE NATION. PROTESTS OF DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES CONTINUED FOR WEEKS AS MORE AND MORE PEOPLE DEMANDED THE END OF SEGREGATION. JUST OVER A YEAR LATER, ON JULY 2, 1964, THANKS TO PRESSURE FROM CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS SUCH AS MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. AND PROTESTS LIKE THE JACKSON SIT-IN, THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT WAS PASSED. IT OUTLAWED DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN.