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Pocket Bios: Nelson Mandela

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This Pocket Bio about Nelson Mandela gives young readers a glimpse into the life of the man who spent his life fighting injustice in South Africa. He recognized the unfairness of Apartheid and formed the African National Congress, which peacefully protested against it. Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for twenty-seven years for opposing the government. Frederik de Klerk, South Africa's new president, freed Mandela and worked with him to change unfair laws. People around the world admired Nelson Mandela, and he earned the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993. Later, he was elected as the first black president in South Africa. He died in 2013.

Pocket Bios are small, almost pocket-sized biographies about people important to U.S. The book includes page spreads with an event in Mandela's life, the year the event occurred, and a relevant comic-like illustration. The vocabulary and concepts are quite simple, making it an appropriate resource for third through sixth graders to use to quickly learn about important historical figures. The text includes experiences that make these important, world-changing people human. The back of the book includes a map with labels and events, as well as a timeline, interesting random facts, and illustrations of relevant people from his life.