

History-Changing Women You've (Probably) Never Heard Of

By Angela Leeper



Can you make a difference when the world thinks you're different?

After a car crash left Indian physician Mary Verghese in a wheelchair, she founded the first rehabilitation center for people like her in India.

She Persisted around the World: 13 Women Who Changed History. By Chelsea Clinton. Illus. by Alexandra Boiger. Philomel. K-Gr. 2.



Is fake news a new concept?

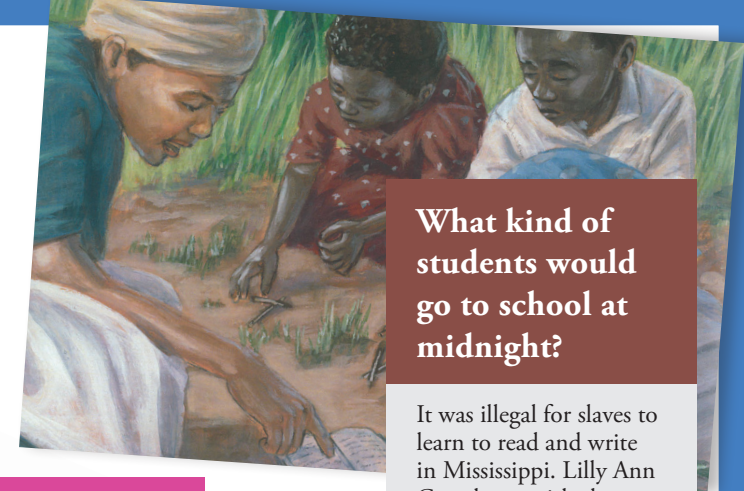
Using trick photography in 1917, cousins Frances Griffiths and Elsie Wright convinced the world that fairies exist.

Fairy Spell: How Two Girls Convinced the World That Fairies Are Real. By Marc Tyler Nobleman. Illus. by Eliza Wheeler. Clarion. K-Gr. 3.

Is the color pink too shocking to wear?

With her motto "Dare to be different," Italian fashion designer Elsa Schiaparelli revolutionized women's fashion with bold designs and her "shocking pink" color.

Bloom: A Story of Fashion Designer Elsa Schiaparelli. By Kyo Maclear. Illus. by Julie Morstad. Harper. K-Gr. 3.



What kind of students would go to school at midnight?

It was illegal for slaves to learn to read and write in Mississippi. Lilly Ann Granderson risked severe punishment to start a secret school at night for fellow slaves.

Midnight Teacher: Lilly Ann Granderson and Her Secret School. By Janet Halfmann. Illus. by London Ladd. Lee & Low. Gr. 1-4.



Who was the first woman to appear on a ballot for U.S. president?

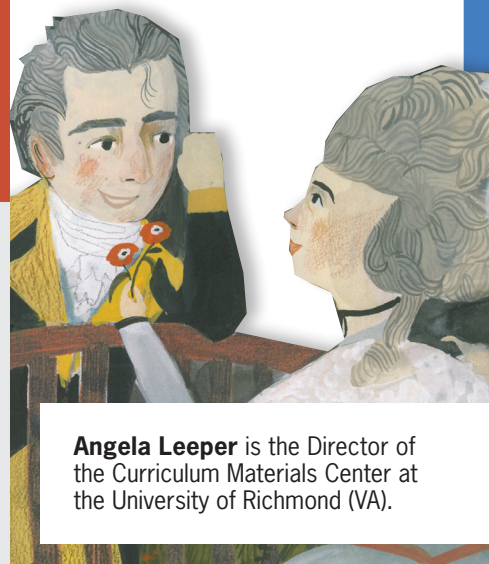
A lifelong champion for women's rights, Belva Lockwood accepted the nomination for president by the National Equal Rights Party in 1884.

A Lady Has the Floor: Belva Lockwood Speaks Out for Women's Rights. By Kate Hannigan. Illus. by Alison Jay. Boyds Mills/Calkins Creek. K-Gr. 2.

How did Alexander Hamilton's better half make her own mark on history?

After her husband's death, resilient Elizabeth Hamilton founded the first orphanage in New York in 1806.

Eliza: The Story of Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton. By Margaret McNamara. Illus. by Esmé Shapiro. Random/Schwartz & Wade. Gr. 2-5.



Angela Leeper is the Director of the Curriculum Materials Center at the University of Richmond (VA).