



5. Think about what goals you can work towards in each of the following stages of life that will help you reach your dream career. As you come up with goals, write them on the back of your bookmark (or, draw a picture that represents them) using the color indicated next to each stage.
  - a. Middle School (orange)
  - b. High School (pink)
  - c. College or Trade School (purple)
  - d. Graduate or Professional School (yellow)
  - e. Family & Friends (green)
6. Try and answer some of the following questions if you need help thinking about goals for each stage of your life:
  - a. What do you need to do now to accomplish your future goals? Do you need good grades? Do you need to take extracurricular classes?
  - b. Do you need to go to college? What steps do you need to take to help you get into your dream college?
  - c. What about graduate school? Does your dream career require any additional professional degrees?
  - d. What personal characteristics do you need throughout your journey? Do you need to be dedicated, resilient, or have a positive attitude? Do you need to be a clear communicator or a good team player?
  - e. How will your family and friends help you along the way? How will you help your loved ones reach *their* dreams, too? Remember: we rely on family and friends for support as we reach for our goals, so it is important to think about the types of people that we want to surround ourselves with.
7. Once you've written your goals on the back of your bookmark, turn it over and decorate the front! If you have any colorful ribbon, use a hole punch to loop and tie this ribbon to the top of the bookmark as extra decoration.
8. Now, read through the Career Connection below to learn about the inspiration behind the design of your bookmarks.

### Career Connection:

Ruth Bader Ginsburg, an author, professor, and lawyer dreamed so big that she made it to the Supreme Court of the United States! Two of her most famous quotes are printed on the Dream Big bookmark templates:

- "Reading shaped my dreams, and more reading helped me make my dreams come true."
- "Real change, enduring change, happens one step at a time."

Ginsburg recognized that reading books improves our brain function, increases our imagination, and helps our dreams come true. Use the Dream Big bookmark you created as encouragement to read something new every single day. Ginsburg also believed that success in life requires focusing on changes that we can make one step at a time... just as you did while creating your Dream Big bookmark!

Now, let's take a look at the life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg for some inspiration:

**31 Days of STEM FUN!**

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Middle School and High School – Education was incredibly important in the household of Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Ginsburg attended James Madison High School in Brooklyn, NY, and one of her first career goals was to become a high school history teacher. She received good grades throughout her time as a student and participated in many different extracurricular activities.

College – After high school, Ginsburg attended Cornell University and made some incredible friends that encouraged her to pursue her academic goals. She also had two influential professors—author Vladimir Nabokov and lawyer Robert Cushman—who inspired her to improve her writing and pursue a career in law.

Professional School – Ginsburg first attended Harvard Law School and then transferred to Columbia Law School, where she graduated at the top of her class. She was one of only a few women in any of her law classes.

Career – Ginsburg had many different careers throughout her life. After graduating from law school, she worked as a professor at both Rutgers and Columbia Law School. She was also a successful lawyer and won many gender equality and women’s rights Supreme Court cases! She was on the board of directors of the American Civil Liberties Union, and Jimmy Carter appointed her to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in 1980. In 1993, President Bill Clinton appointed Ginsburg to the Supreme Court as the second ever female justice, and first Jewish female justice. She wrote many notable majority opinions and served until her death on September 18, 2020.

Family & Friends – Family and friendships were both incredibly important to Ginsburg. Just nine days after receiving her bachelor’s degree at Cornell, Ginsburg got married to fellow student, Martin Ginsburg. They had two children: Jane, a professor at Columbia Law School, and James, the founder of a classical music recording company. Ginsburg also had four grandchildren and hosted one of her granddaughter’s third birthday parties at the Supreme Court! One of her best friends was fellow Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, and they shared a love of travel, teaching, and attending the opera.

Did you know?

- Ruth Bader Ginsburg was born Joan Ruth Bader, but teachers began calling her “Ruth” to help distinguish her from other students named Joan.
- At Harvard Law School, Ginsburg was one of only *eight* females in a class of 500! She also had a baby at home and was caring for her husband who had been diagnosed with cancer. Even so, Ginsburg managed to excel in her academics and became the first female member of the *Harvard Law Review*.
- One of Ginsburg’s most popular nicknames, given to her by an admiring law student, is “The Notorious RBG,” named after the rapper “The Notorious B.I.G.” When an NBC reporter asked Ginsburg what she thought of this nickname, she replied: “People ask me, ‘Don't you feel uncomfortable with a name like The Notorious RBG?’ Why should I feel uncomfortable? We have a lot in common.”

## Resources:

<https://www.biography.com/law-figure/ruth-bader-ginsburg>

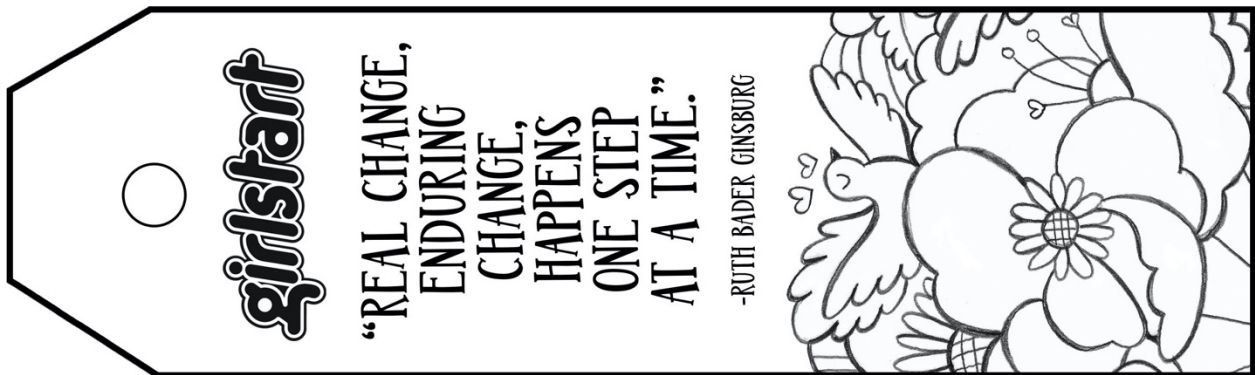
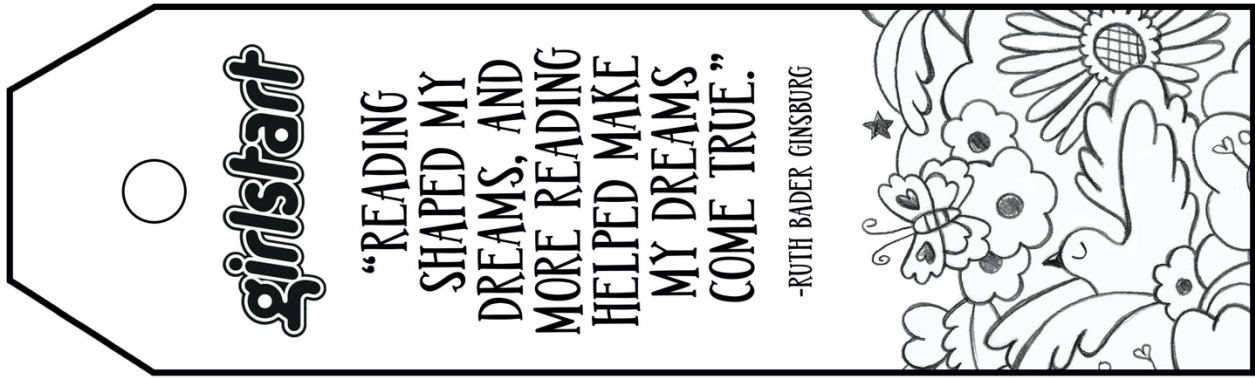
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Ruth-Bader-Ginsburg>

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# Bookmark Template



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