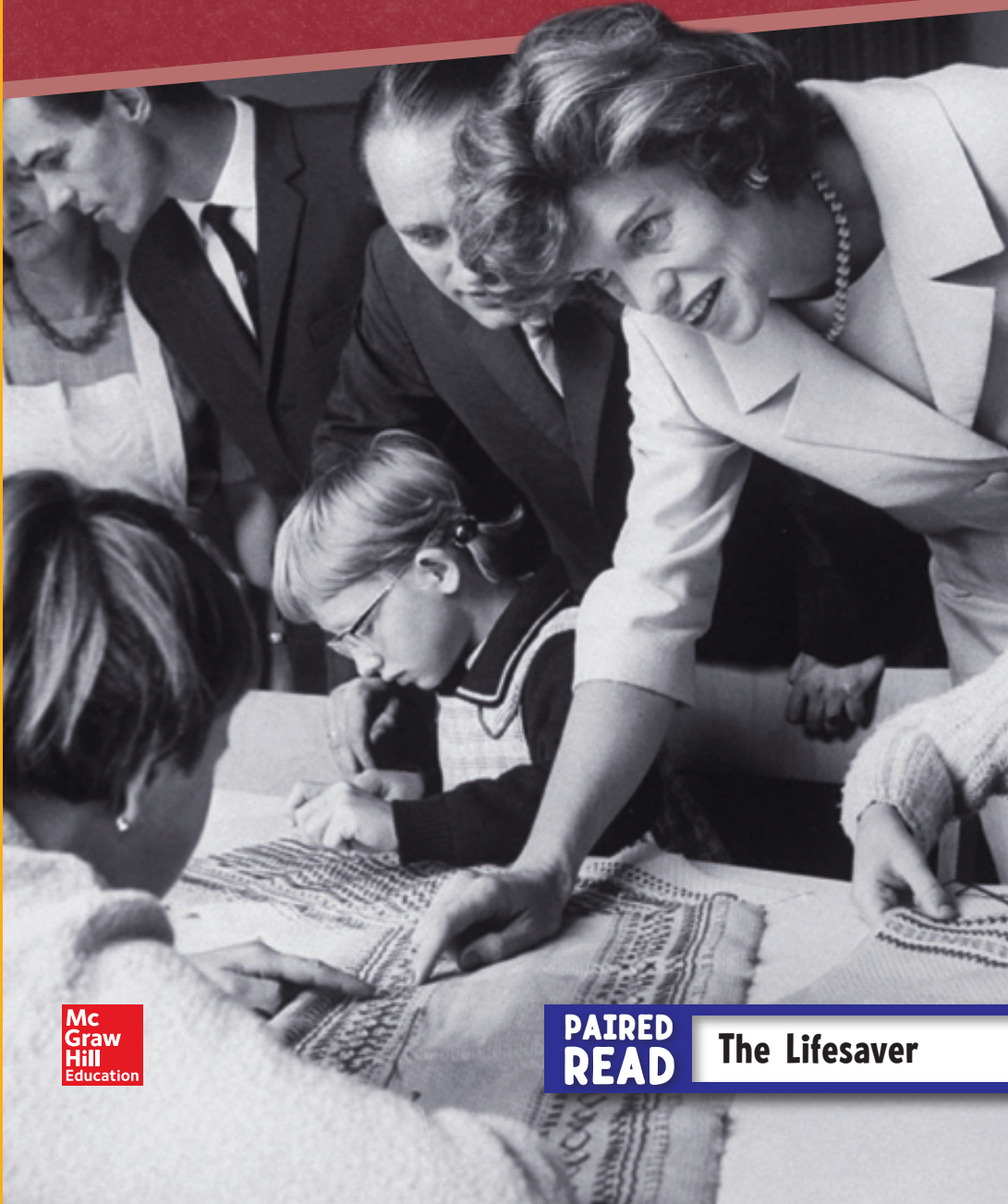


Biography

Eunice Kennedy Shriver



by Geoff Fairburn



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Education

**PAIRED
READ**

The Lifesaver

VOCABULARY & SKILLS

Comprehension Skill

Author's Point of View

Vocabulary

citizenship, continue,
daring, horrified,
participate, proposed,
unfairness, waver

Expand Vocabulary

athletes, challenges,
compete, opportunity,
raised, remarkable

Content Standards

Social Studies

Civics and Government

Word count: 861**

Photography Credit: Cover John Loengard/Time & Life Pictures/Getty Images.

**The total word count is based on words in the running text and headings only. Numerals and words in captions, labels, diagrams, charts, and sidebars are not included.

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Send all inquiries to:
McGraw-Hill Education
Two Penn Plaza
New York, New York 10121

ISBN: 978-0-02-129925-6
MHID: 0-02-129925-0

Printed in Mexico.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 DRY 18 17 16 15 14 13



Essential Question
What do good citizens do?

Eunice Kennedy Shriver



by Geoff Fairburn

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READ**

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Introduction

In 1968, there was a special sports contest in Chicago, Illinois. One thousand **athletes** took part in the contest. At the start, a woman spoke to the athletes. She told them to try hard. She knew they would be brave.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver at
the first Special Olympics
Games in 1968 in Chicago





Eunice Kennedy Shriver (left) started the Special Olympics.

The contest was the first Special Olympics Games. The athletes had **intellectual disabilities**. The woman was Eunice Kennedy Shriver. She had helped plan the games. She gave the opening speech. Eunice was an amazing woman. She worked hard to help people with intellectual disabilities.

STOP AND CHECK

What happened in 1968?

Chapter 1 Growing Up

Eunice Kennedy was born in 1921. She had eight brothers and sisters. They were **raised** to always do their best and to win.

Eunice was a good athlete. She loved swimming. She loved playing touch football. She loved sailing with her older sister Rosemary.

Eunice (far right) played football with her brothers.

CORBIS





Eunice (left) and her sister Rosemary

Rosemary Kennedy was born with mental **challenges**. She was slow to learn. She had a brain operation to help her get better. But it did not work. When she was in her twenties, Rosemary went to live in a special home. She loved seeing her family. She loved swimming.

Eunice learned a lot from Rosemary. Rosemary showed Eunice what people with intellectual disabilities could do. At that time, people with mental disabilities could not go to school or work. They did not usually play sports. Eunice felt the **unfairness** of this. She wanted to make life better for people like Rosemary.

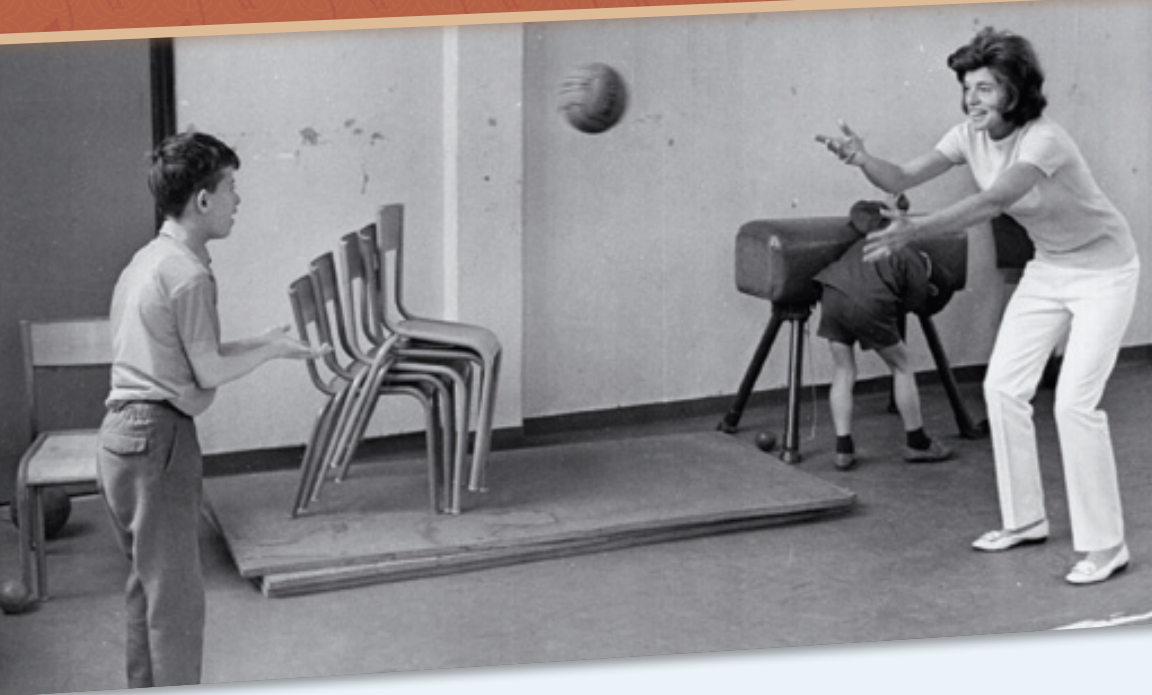
STOP AND CHECK

How did Rosemary help Eunice?

Today, people with intellectual disabilities can go to school and play sports.



Chapter 2 A Life of Public Service



Eunice made people's lives better with sports and fun.

In 1953, Eunice married Sargent Shriver. They had five children. Eunice found time to help people living with intellectual disabilities.

Eunice ran a family **charity**. The charity looked for ways to help people with mental challenges.

The Kennedy family was involved in government. Eunice's brother Robert was a senator and then Attorney General. Her brother Edward was also a senator.

Eunice's brother John F. Kennedy was President of the United States. Eunice asked him to help people with intellectual disabilities. She wanted more schools and training programs for them.

In 1963, President Kennedy signed a bill to help with more schools and training programs.

Bettmann/CORBIS

**Eunice smiling
after President
Kennedy (left)
signed the bill**



Eunice visiting
children at a
school for the
intellectually
disabled



In 1962, Eunice wrote an article. She described growing up with Rosemary. She told how **horrified** she was at the way people with disabilities were treated. She felt it was unfair. She said that people with intellectual disabilities could do many things.

At the time, people did not know much about intellectual disabilities. Eunice helped people understand.

STOP AND CHECK

Why did Eunice ask her brother for help?

Chapter 3 From Camp Shriver to Special Olympics



At Camp Shriver, everyone played sports and had fun.

In 1962, Eunice started a summer sports camp at her home in Maryland. The camp was called Camp Shriver.

Children with intellectual disabilities and their families did not have to pay to go to the camp. There was lots of fun and games. Eunice soon started more sports camps.

The charity that Eunice ran paid for the sports camps. Next, Eunice **proposed** that a special sports event be held. Children with intellectual disabilities would **participate**. The sports event became the Special Olympics.

The first Special Olympics Games took place in 1968. One thousand athletes from the United States and Canada took part. There were swimming and running races. There were also ball throws and long jump.



People watch an athlete take part in the first Special Olympics Games.



Eunice was
a friend to all
the athletes.

Eunice believed in all the athletes at the Special Olympics. She hoped others would, too. Today, the games **continue** to grow. Athletes from all over the world **compete**. They try their best.

Special Olympics has helped people to see the **capabilities** of those who live with intellectual disabilities.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver described people with intellectual disabilities as sending a message to everyone. Today, these people go to school. They get jobs. They play sports. They are celebrated for their **achievements**.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver spent her life working for people with intellectual disabilities. She did not **waver**. She improved their lives.



Eunice went to the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games in China.



Like Nelson Mandela (left), Eunice Kennedy Shriver sent hope to the world.

Eunice won awards for her good **citizenship**.

Eunice Kennedy Shriver died in 2009. She was a **remarkable** woman. She helped millions of people with intellectual disabilities. She gave them the **opportunity**, or chance, to do their best.

STOP AND CHECK

What was Camp Shriver?

TIME LINE

- 1921 Born
- 1943 Graduated from Stanford University
- 1953 Married Sargent Shriver
- 1957 Became director of family charity
- 1961 Inauguration of brother John F. Kennedy as President of the United States
- 1962 Start of Camp Shriver
- 1963 Signing of Intellectual Disabilities Bill
- 1968 First Special Olympics
- 1984 Awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom
- 2009 Died August 11

Respond to Reading

Summarize

Summarize the important events in Eunice Kennedy Shriver's life. Use details from the text. Your chart may help you.

Details

↓

Point of View

Text Evidence

1. Reread page 3. What word tells you how the author feels about Eunice Kennedy Shriver? **AUTHOR'S POINT OF VIEW**
2. Find the word *mental* on page 5. What does it mean? What clues help you figure it out? **VOCABULARY**
3. Write about the kind of language the author uses to tell you how he feels about Eunice Kennedy Shriver.

WRITE ABOUT READING

Compare Texts

Read about a man who worked to keep people safe in the water.



THE LIFESAVER

Have you ever seen a lifeguard at a pool or a beach? They are there because of Bert Longfellow.

In 1900, Bert worked for a newspaper. He wrote stories about people who had drowned. Bert was horrified by their deaths. People wanted to have fun and be **daring** in the water. But not many people could swim.

Bert wanted to help. He became a lifesaver when he was 19. He rescued people who got into trouble in the water. Bert also taught people how to stay safe in the water.



Bert Longfellow (center) shows how to rescue someone in the water.

In 1907, Bert found out that he was very sick. He had a bone disease. He was too sick to teach water safety. Bert spent time in the sun every day. This helped him to get better.

Bert wanted to teach people water safety. In 1912, he asked the American Red Cross for help. Bert set up Red Cross programs across the country so people could learn lifesaving.

Thanks to Bert, fewer people died from drowning. People began to learn lifesaving through the Red Cross. Today, the American Red Cross trains lifeguards and teaches people to swim.

Red Cross lifeguards help keep swimmers safe.



Make Connections

What made Bert Longfellow a good citizen?

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How were Eunice Kennedy Shriver and Bert Longfellow the same? **TEXT TO TEXT**

Glossary

achievements (*uh-CHEEV-ments*) things done with great effort and courage (*page 13*)

capabilities (*kay-puh-BIL-i-teez*) skills and strengths that can be used and developed (*page 12*)

charity (*CHAYR-uh-tee*) an organization that helps people who are poor, sick, or face other challenges (*page 7*)

intellectual disabilities (*in-tuh-LEK-chew-uhl dis-uh-BIL-i-teez*) conditions of the mind that make it difficult for people to do or understand things in the normal way (*page 3*)

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athletes, 2–4, 11, 12, 13

Camp Shriver, 10, 14

Kennedy, John F., 8, 9, 14

Kennedy, Rosemary, 4–6, 9

Shriver, Sargent, 7, 14

Special Olympics, 2, 3, 11–14

Focus on Social Studies

Purpose To make a time line of a person's life

What to Do

Step 1 Work with a partner. Choose someone who you think has been a good citizen.

.....

Step 2 Research that person's life.

.....

Step 3 Write down the key events in his or her life. Write the date for each event. Use the chart to help you.

Date	Event
Date	Event
Date	Event

Step 4 Put the events in the order they happened. Make a time line about your good citizen.

.....

Conclusion What does the time line tell you about your good citizen?

Nonfiction

Thinkmark

The Topic

What is *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* mostly about?

Sequence of Information

In what order does the author give us the information in this book?

Key Vocabulary

What are the key words in this book that relate to the topic?

Author's Purpose

What is the author's purpose for writing *Eunice Kennedy Shriver*?

Make Connections

How is *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* like other biographies you have read?

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Grade 3 • Unit 5 Week 4

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978-0-02-129925-6
MHID 0-02-129925-0

