

| Proposed Name(s) | Facts about Ella Baker | Summary |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ella Baker Montessori ● Ella J. Baker Montessori | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ella Josephine Baker (December 13, 1903 – December 13, 1986) was an American civil rights and human rights activist. She was a largely behind-the-scenes organizer whose career spanned more than five decades. ● She was a behind the scenes civil rights activist, founded Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), mentored Rosa Parks and Stokley Carmichael. ● In New York City and the South, she worked alongside some of the most noted civil rights leaders of the 20th century, including W. E. B. Du Bois, Thurgood Marshall, A. Philip Randolph, and Martin Luther King Jr. ● Baker has been called "one of the most important American leaders of the twentieth century and perhaps the most influential woman in the civil rights movement." ● She is known for her critiques not only of racism within American culture, but also of sexism within the civil rights movement. ● She advocated widespread, local action as a means of social change. ● Her emphasis on a grassroots approach to the struggle for equal rights influenced the growth and success of the civil rights movement of the mid-20th century. ● While not as well-known as Dr. King, John Lewis or other famed leaders of the civil rights movement, Baker was a powerful behind-the-scenes force that ensured the success of some of the movement's most important organizations and events. ● Her life and accomplishments were chronicled in the 1981 documentary <i>Fundi: The Story of Ella Baker</i>. "Fundi" was her nickname, from a Swahili word that means a person who passes down a craft to the next generation. ● "Singing alone is not enough; we need schools and learning."-Ella Baker ● "We who believe in freedom cannot rest."-Ella Baker ● "You didn't see me on television, you didn't see news stories about me. The kind of role that I tried to play was to pick up pieces or put together pieces out of which I hoped organization might come. My theory is strong people don't need strong leaders."-Ella Baker | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>With this proposed name, we show our community/teach our students you do not always have to be in the spotlight to make a difference.</i> ● <i>As a Montessori school with a peace education curriculum, Baker's legacy would prove that if we join together, we can make change happen.</i> ● <i>As Montessorians and students preparing for a global society, we see a problem and we solve it, without the expectation of accolades.</i> |