César Chávez

By Tatum, Alyssa, and George
Cesar Chavez: March 1927- April 1993

- He was born in Yuma, Arizona
- He was one of five children
- Grew up on small farm - when it was foreclosed during the Great Depression, Chavez (Age 10) and his family joined the migrant workers who were looking for work out west
- His family had to live in tents and shacks
Biography (cont.)

- In 1939, when Chavez was 12, a CIO Union was organizing dried-fruit workers in San Jose where his family was living.
- When Chavez was 12, his father and grandfather joined this union and picketed in a strike. This was Chavez's first exposure to unions.
- Unionizing left a positive effect on Chavez, who joined the National Agricultural Workers Union at age 19.
- He also served in the U.S. Navy during World War Two (1943-1945).
- After the war, he met and married Helen Fabela in 1948 while working in Delano.
His Actions

- He was frustrated with the treatment of workers
- He became a workers rights activist after Fred Ross introduced him to and he worked with the CSO (Community Service Organization)
- He later formed the National Farm workers Association
His actions (Cont.)

● Started La Causa meaning "The Cause," to signify the union

● Led boycotts from 1968-1970 to grab the attention of the country so he could make a difference
How he changed society

- National Farm workers Association:
  - Raised Salaries
  - Improved working conditions for farm workers
  - Improved compensation & labor conditions (long lasting)

- La causa:
  - his boycotts got farmers to agree to collective bargaining.
Sources