

*Brown Girl Dreaming*  
Poem Group Discussion Guide

**First Reading: A volunteer from the group reads aloud as others follow along**

Possible discussion points

- Who is the focus of this poem and what is his or her connection to the author/speaker?
- What aspects of the Civil Rights movement/desegregation are the poem's focus?

**Second Reading: Each student reads the text silently to him or herself**

Possible discussion points

- What are the focal character's experiences with the Civil Rights movement and desegregation?
- What specific words, details, and images help you understand that experience?

**Third reading: All group members read the text together, aloud**

Possible discussion points

- What perspectives on the Civil Rights movement does this character convey?
- How are his or her experiences related to those perspectives? What might account for those perspectives?

**Wrap up question:** How will we help our peers understand the perspectives and experiences toward life in a desegregating America conveyed in our poem?