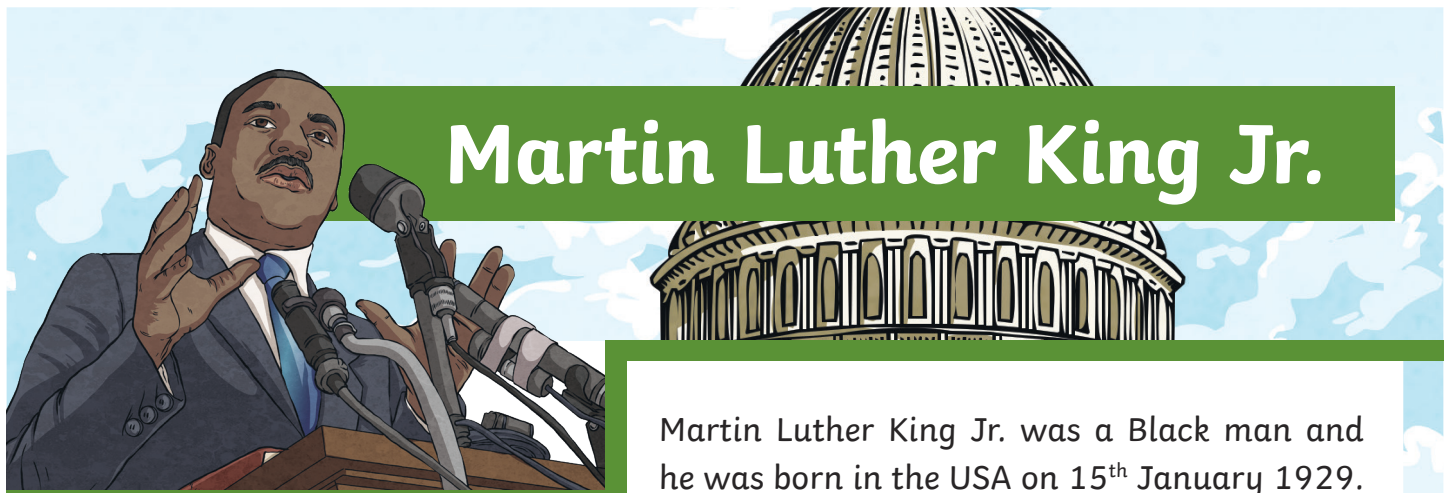
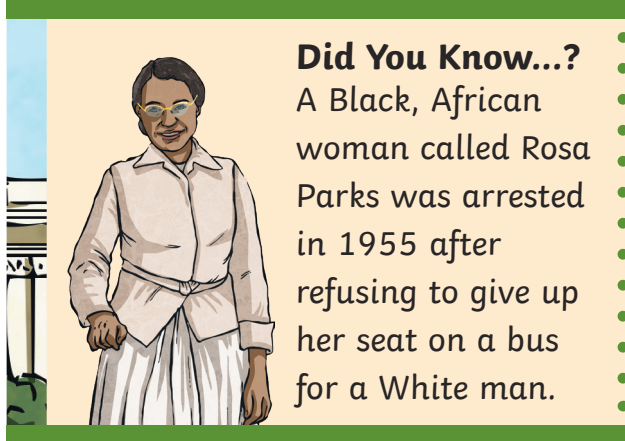


Disclaimer

We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. This resource contains potentially sensitive and/or upsetting topics that may emotionally impact on students you use it with due to their experiences in their past. It is your responsibility to consider whether it is appropriate to use this resource with your students. If you do use this resource, it is your responsibility to ensure that appropriate support is available for anyone affected.



Martin Luther King Jr.



Did You Know...?

A Black, African woman called Rosa Parks was arrested in 1955 after refusing to give up her seat on a bus for a White man.

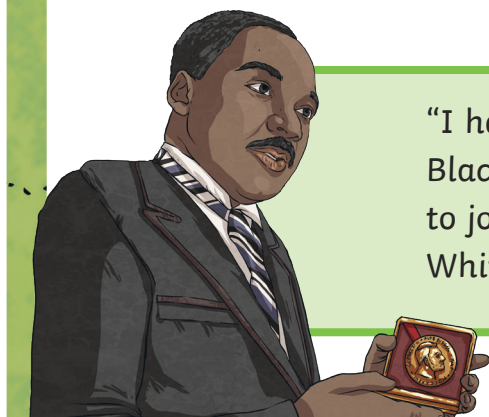
Martin Luther King Jr. was a Black man and he was born in the USA on 15th January 1929. He enjoyed playing sports, playing the piano and going to school as a child. Sadly, life was often hard. Some people treated him differently because of the colour of his skin.

Times were hard for Black people living in the USA. There were separate areas for Black people and White people on public transport, in parks, restaurants and even in toilets.

Black children were not allowed to go to school with White children. They had to go to separate schools that didn't have many resources to help with their learning. However, the impact that these schools had on Black children meant that talented and intelligent individuals were given the opportunity to grow into confident people who believed in themselves.

Martin Luther King Jr. was a Christian who wanted to make sure that all Americans had the same rights regardless of their race. He became a civil rights activist. This means that he campaigned for improved rights for people.

In 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. led the huge March on Washington DC, the US capital. In front of the enormous crowd, Martin Luther King Jr. made his famous 'I Have a Dream' speech. Here is a short piece of that speech:



"I have a dream that one day... little Black boys and Black girls will be able to join hands with little White boys and White girls as sisters and brothers."





Did You Know...?

Martin Luther King Jr. was only 39 years old when he was killed. Many thousands of people went to his funeral.

It is because of Martin Luther King Jr. and others like him that the law was changed in the USA. The new law stated that everyone had the same rights regardless of skin colour. The law was also changed so that everyone could vote.

There is still a long way to go for racial equality in America but the work of Martin Luther King Jr. was a big step in the right direction.

In 1964, he received the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to end racial prejudice in the USA.

There is an American national holiday to celebrate his birthday every January.



Questions

1. When was Martin Luther King Jr. born? Tick one.

- ☐ 1999
- ☐ 2019
- ☐ 1929
- ☐ 1992

2. When is the American holiday to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr.? Tick one.

- ☐ every January
- ☐ every February
- ☐ every March
- ☐ every April

3. Draw **three** lines and complete the sentences.

Martin Luther King Jr. fought for...

Black people and
White people.

There were separate areas for...

because of the colour of his skin.

Some people treated
him differently...

equal rights for all.

4. Where did Martin Luther King Jr. lead the huge March on 1963? Tick one.

- ☐ New York
- ☐ Washington DC
- ☐ Chicago
- ☐ Los Angeles

5. Why was Martin Luther King Jr. awarded a Nobel Peace Prize in 1964?

6. Why was Rosa Parks arrested in 1955?

7. What do you think the meaning behind Martin Luther King Jr.'s 'I Have a Dream' speech is?

Answers

1. When was Martin Luther King Jr. born? Tick one.

- ☐ 1999
- ☐ 2019
- ☒ **1929**
- ☐ 1992

2. When is the American holiday to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr.? Tick one.

- ☒ **every January**
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- ☒ **Washington DC**
- ☐ Chicago
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5. Why was Martin Luther King Jr. awarded a Nobel Peace Prize in 1964?

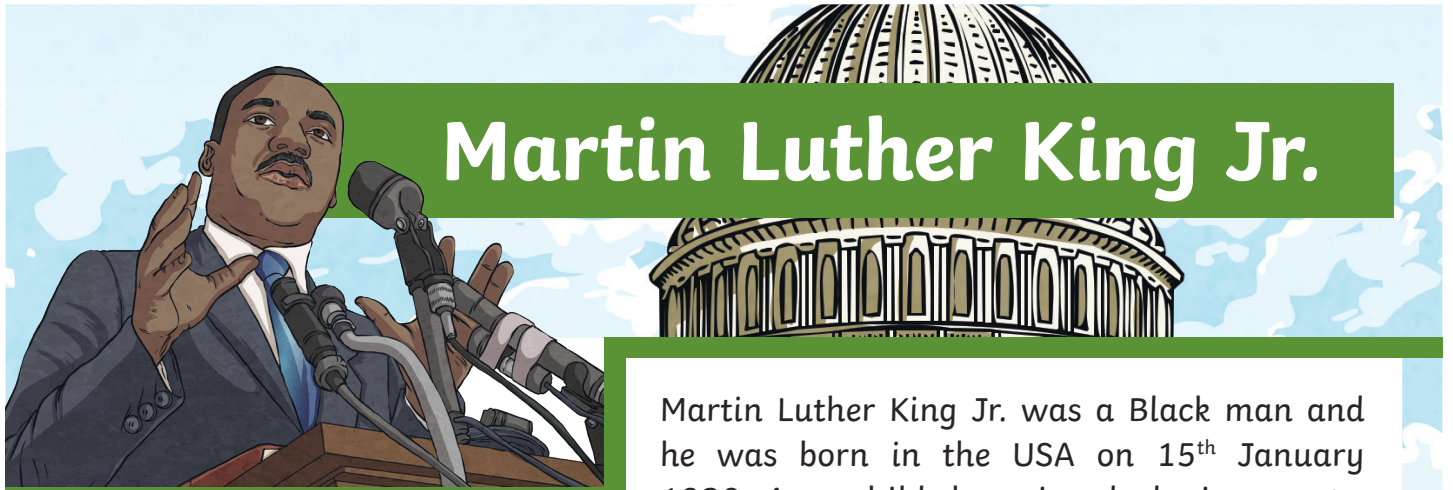
Martin Luther King Jr. received the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to end racial prejudice in the USA.

6. Why was Rosa Parks arrested in 1955?

Rosa Parks was arrested because she refused to give up her seat on a bus for a White man.

7. What do you think the meaning behind Martin Luther King Jr.'s 'I Have a Dream' speech is?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think Martin Luther King Jr.'s 'I Have a Dream' speech means that he is hoping for a future where children are friends and love each other like family, no matter what the colour of their skin is.



Martin Luther King Jr.

The 1955 Bus Boycott

A Black, African woman called Rosa Parks was arrested in 1955 after refusing to give up her seat on a bus for a White man. This took place in the city where Martin Luther King Jr. preached.



Martin Luther King Jr. called on Black Americans to protest by not travelling on buses in that area. This protest lasted for 385 days and ended with a United States court ruling that there would be no separate areas for Black people and White people on all Montgomery public buses.

Martin Luther King Jr. was a Black man and he was born in the USA on 15th January 1929. As a child, he enjoyed playing sports, playing the piano and going to school. Sadly, life was often difficult. Some people treated him differently based on the colour of his skin.

At the time, there were separate areas for Black people and White people on public transport, in parks, restaurants and even public toilets. Up until the 1960s, Black people in some states of the USA could not vote in elections.

Black children were not permitted to go to school with White children. They had to go to separate schools that didn't have many resources to help with their learning. However, the impact that these schools had on Black children meant that talented and intelligent individuals were given the opportunity to grow into confident people who believed in themselves.

Martin Luther King Jr. was determined to make sure that all Americans had the same rights regardless of their race so he became a civil rights activist. This means that he campaigned for improved rights for people.



Martin Luther King Jr. went on to organise other non-violent demonstrations against the unfair treatment of Black people. In 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. led the huge March on Washington DC, the US capital. In front of a crowd of 250,000 people, King made his famous 'I Have a Dream' speech. Here are some short extracts:

"I have a dream that one day... little Black boys and Black girls will be able to join hands with little White boys and White girls as sisters and brothers."

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character."



Did You Know...?

On October 14th 1964, he received the Nobel Peace Prize for combatting racial inequality through non-violence.

As a result of Martin Luther King Jr.'s actions and words, and others like him, the US government brought in laws to ensure equal rights for all US citizens and to give everybody the chance to vote.

Although there is still a long way to go for racial equality in America, the work of Martin Luther King Jr. was a big step in the right direction.

Martin Luther King Jr. was only 39 years old when he was killed. The funeral was attended by around 300,000 people. Every January, there is an American national holiday to celebrate his birthday.



Questions

1. How old was Martin Luther King Jr. when he died? Tick one.
 - ☐ 29
 - ☐ 39
 - ☐ 49
 - ☐ 59
2. Where did Martin Luther King Jr. make his famous 1963 speech? Tick one.
 - ☐ New York City
 - ☐ Chicago
 - ☐ Washington DC
 - ☐ Los Angeles
3. How many people saw Martin Luther King Jr. give his 'I Have a Dream' speech? Tick one.
 - ☐ 250
 - ☐ 250,000
 - ☐ 25
 - ☐ 2500
4. Draw **four** lines and complete the sentences.

Rosa Parks...

called on Black people to
not travel on buses in that area.

Martin Luther King Jr. ...

lasted for 385 days.

The protest...

a United States court ruled that there would be
no separate areas on Montgomery public buses.

In the end,...

was arrested after refusing to give
up her seat on a bus for a White man.

5. Fill in the missing words.

Martin Luther King Jr. went on to organise other _____
against the unfair treatment of Black people.

6. Give **two** examples of places where Black people and White people could not mix.

1. _____

2. _____

7. **As a result of Martin Luther King Jr.'s actions and words, and others like him,...**

What did the US government do?

8. Why do you think Martin Luther King Jr.'s funeral was so well attended?

Answers

1. How old was Martin Luther King Jr. when he died? Tick one.
 - ☐ 29
 - ☒ **39**
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2. Where did Martin Luther King Jr. make his famous 1963 speech? Tick one.
 - ☐ New York City
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3. How many people saw Martin Luther King Jr. give his 'I Have a Dream' speech? Tick one.
 - ☐ 250
 - ☒ **250,000**
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4. Draw **four** lines and complete the sentences.

Rosa Parks...	called on Black people to not travel on buses in that area.
Martin Luther King Jr. ...	lasted for 385 days.
The protest...	a United States court ruled that there would be no separate areas on Montgomery public buses.
In the end,...	was arrested after refusing to give up her seat on a bus for a White man.

5. Fill in the missing words.

Martin Luther King Jr. went on to organise other **non-violent demonstrations** against the unfair treatment of Black people.

6. Give **two** examples of places where Black people and White people could not mix.

Accept any two of the following: public transport; parks; restaurants; public toilets.

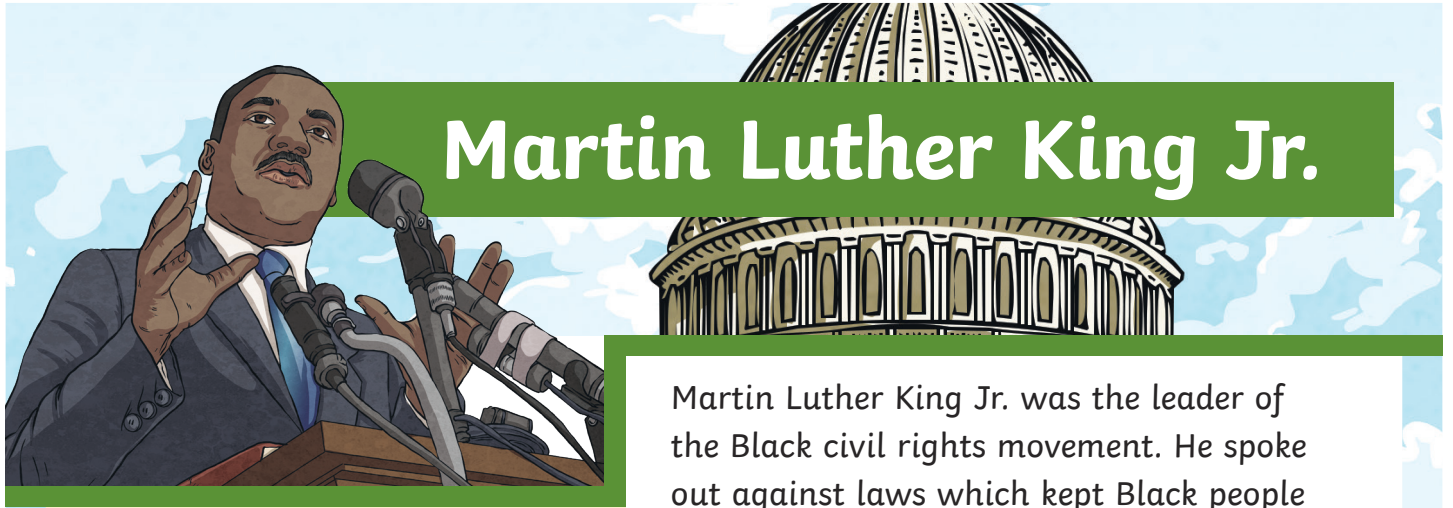
7. **As a result of Martin Luther King Jr.'s actions and words, and others like him,...**

What did the US government do?

As a result of Martin Luther King Jr.'s actions and words, and others like him, the US government brought in laws to ensure equal rights for all US citizens and to give everybody the chance to vote.

8. Why do you think Martin Luther King Jr.'s funeral was so well attended?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think his funeral was so well attended because his words and actions had a positive effect on people's lives and they wanted to pay their respects for what he had done to help them. I think his funeral was so well attended because he had inspired so many people to stand up for what they believe in.



Martin Luther King Jr.



The 1955 Bus Boycott

A Black, African woman called Rosa Parks was arrested in 1955 after refusing to give up her seat on a bus for a White man. This took place in the city where Martin Luther King Jr. preached.

Martin Luther King Jr. called on Black people to protest by not travelling on buses in that area. The boycott lasted for 385 days and the situation became so tense that Martin Luther King Jr.'s house was bombed. Other people were furious and wanted to fight back with violence but Martin Luther King Jr. said that things needed to be solved peacefully and talked about the importance of White people and Black people getting along. The boycott ended with a United

States court ruling that ended racial segregation on all Montgomery public buses.



Martin Luther King Jr. was the leader of the Black civil rights movement. He spoke out against laws which kept Black people and White people separate and led marches demanding fair laws for all people. Martin Luther King Jr. was determined to ensure that all Americans had the same rights regardless of their race.

He was born on 15th January 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. His father was a pastor and his mother had been a teacher. Martin Luther King Jr. loved to play with his friends but, as his friends got older, two of them stopped playing with him. The father of one of the boys didn't like his son playing with him because he was Black. Martin Luther King Jr. was deeply hurt and upset and couldn't understand why the colour of his skin would make any difference.

For Black people living in the USA, life was challenging. There were separate areas for Black people and White people on public transport, in parks, restaurants and even in public toilets. This was called segregation. Up until the 1960s, Black people in some states of the US could not vote in elections.

Martin Luther King Jr.

In some states, Black children had to go to separate schools from their White peers. These schools were often poorly funded and equipped. However, the impact that these schools had on Black children meant that talented and intelligent individuals were given the opportunity to grow into confident people who believed in themselves.

Martin Luther King Jr. went on to organise other non-violent demonstrations against the unfair treatment of Black people. In 1963, he led the huge March on Washington DC, the US capital. The March on Washington involved 250,000 people travelling to the Lincoln Memorial. Here, in front of the enormous crowd, Martin Luther King Jr. made his famous 'I Have a Dream' speech. Here are some short extracts:



"I have a dream that one day... little Black boys and Black girls will be able to join hands with little White boys and White girls as sisters and brothers."

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character."

Did You Know...?

In 1964, Martin Luther King Jr. received the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to end racial prejudice in the USA.

Rules in America began to change. The US government brought in laws to ensure equal rights for all US citizens and to give everybody the chance to vote.

Although there is still a long way to go for racial equality in America, the work of Martin Luther King Jr. was a big step in the right direction.

Tragically, on 4th April 1968, Martin Luther King Jr. was shot and killed outside his motel room. His funeral was attended by 300,000 mourners.

In 1983, US President Ronald Reagan declared that the third Monday in January each year would be a holiday to remember Martin Luther King Jr.'s achievements and the ideas of living in a world which was fair for everyone, no matter the colour of their skin.

Questions

1. Which definition best fits the word **boycott**? Tick one.

- ☐ to attend a funeral
- ☐ to stop using a service in protest
- ☐ to be a president
- ☐ to make a court ruling

2. Where did the March on Washington DC travel to? Tick one.

- ☐ the White House
- ☐ the Lincoln Memorial
- ☐ the Empire State Building
- ☐ the US government

3. Where was Martin Luther King Jr. born?

4. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'separation based on race'.

5. Give **three** examples of how Black people were treated differently from White people.

- 1.

- 2.

- 3.

6. Why do you think that Martin Luther King Jr. believed it best to carry out non-violent demonstrations?

7. Martin Luther King Jr.'s funeral was well attended. Why do you think this was the case?

8. **"I have a dream that one day... little Black boys and Black girls will be able to join hands with little White boys and White girls as sisters and brothers."**

Explain Martin Luther King Jr.'s quote in your own words.

Answers

1. Which definition best fits the word **boycott**? Tick one.

- ☐ to attend a funeral
- ☒ **to stop using a service in protest**
- ☐ to be a president
- ☐ to make a court ruling

2. Where did the March on Washington DC travel to? Tick one.

- ☐ the White House
- ☒ **the Lincoln Memorial**
- ☐ the Empire State Building
- ☐ the US government

3. Where was Martin Luther King Jr. born?

Martin Luther King Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia.

4. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'separation based on race'.

segregation

5. Give **three** examples of how Black people were treated differently from White people.

Accept any three of the following: There were separate areas for Black people and White people on public transport, in parks, restaurants and in public toilets; Up until the 1960s, Black people in some states of the US could not vote; Black children were not allowed to go to school with White children; Black people had to give up their seats for White people on public transport.

6. Why do you think that Martin Luther King Jr. believed it best to carry out non-violent demonstrations?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think Martin Luther King Jr. believed that they wouldn't be listened to if they protested with violence. He wanted to show how the Black community was willing to get along with the White community.

7. Martin Luther King Jr.'s funeral was well attended. Why do you think this was the case?
Pupils' own responses, such as: I think his funeral was well attended because his words and actions had a positive effect on people's lives and they wanted to pay their respects for what he had done to help them. I think his funeral was so well attended because he had inspired so many people to stand up for what they believe in.

8. **"I have a dream that one day... little Black boys and Black girls will be able to join hands with little White boys and White girls as sisters and brothers."**

Explain Martin Luther King Jr.'s quote in your own words.

Accept any suitable explanation of the quote, such as: I think that Martin Luther King Jr. was imagining that one day children would be able to play with each other regardless of the colour of their skin. I think that Martin Luther King Jr. was saying that he would like for children to care for each other as family.