

# Martin Luther King

Please Note:

There is one Martin Luther King unit in this pdf file. It has a set of worksheets with more color and a set of worksheets with less color.

If you plan to print the unit with black ink only it is best to use the second unit in this file which begins on page 22.



# Martin Luther King



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Martin Luther King

Martin Luther King was a great civil rights leader. He was a Baptist minister. He believed all people had the right to freedom and equality. Martin Luther King did not believe in violence. He wanted peaceful actions to change the laws.

The Jim Crow laws, refer to the separation of blacks and whites. Blacks were not permitted in certain restaurants, hotels, schools, theaters, and other public places. Martin Luther King wanted to change these laws.

Martin was born in Atlanta, Georgia on January 15, 1929. Martin's father was the pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church. Alberta Williams King, Martin's mother, directed the church choir. Martin had a younger brother and an older sister.

Martin's parents taught him responsibility, and to treat others with respect. Martin began to read before he started school. He enjoyed reading about the lives of black heroes and heroines.

As a child, Martin learned that white people and black people were not treated the same. He could not use the same restrooms, drink from the same water fountains, or go to the same schools.





# Martin Luther King



Martin's parents always told him he was as good as everyone else. He worked and studied hard in school. His goal was to make the world a better place to live.

When Martin was fifteen years old he started college. He went to Morehouse College, in Atlanta. It was a black college. Martin decided to become a minister.

Martin gave his first sermon at the Ebenezer Baptist Church when he was seventeen. He graduated from Morehouse College when he was eighteen. After Morehouse, he went to a school for ministers in Pennsylvania.

While at college Martin studied about a man named Gandhi. Gandhi led the people of India to change unjust laws in his country. Gandhi believed the laws could be changed peacefully and without violence. In 1947, the laws in India were changed. They won their freedom.

Martin attended Boston University to earn the title of doctor. He met and married Coretta Scott while living in Boston. In 1954, he became the pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, in Montgomery, Alabama.



# Martin Luther King



When Dr. King became the pastor, he became active in civil rights. He wanted to change the laws of segregation. In Montgomery, black people had to ride in the back of buses. They had to give up their seats to white people.

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks, a black woman was arrested in Montgomery. She refused to give up her seat on the bus so a white rider could sit. She had paid to ride on the bus, and wanted to be treated the same as the white people.

Dr. King urged the black people of Montgomery, not to ride the buses. This was called a boycott.

For the next year, black people did not use the buses.

The boycott cost the bus company a lot of money. Many black people were physically attacked. Dr. King urged his people not to fight back.



# Martin Luther King

It took a year, but the law was changed. Black people could sit anywhere on a bus

Dr. King traveled and spoke to thousands of people in many cities across the country.

He gave speeches about freedom for all races.

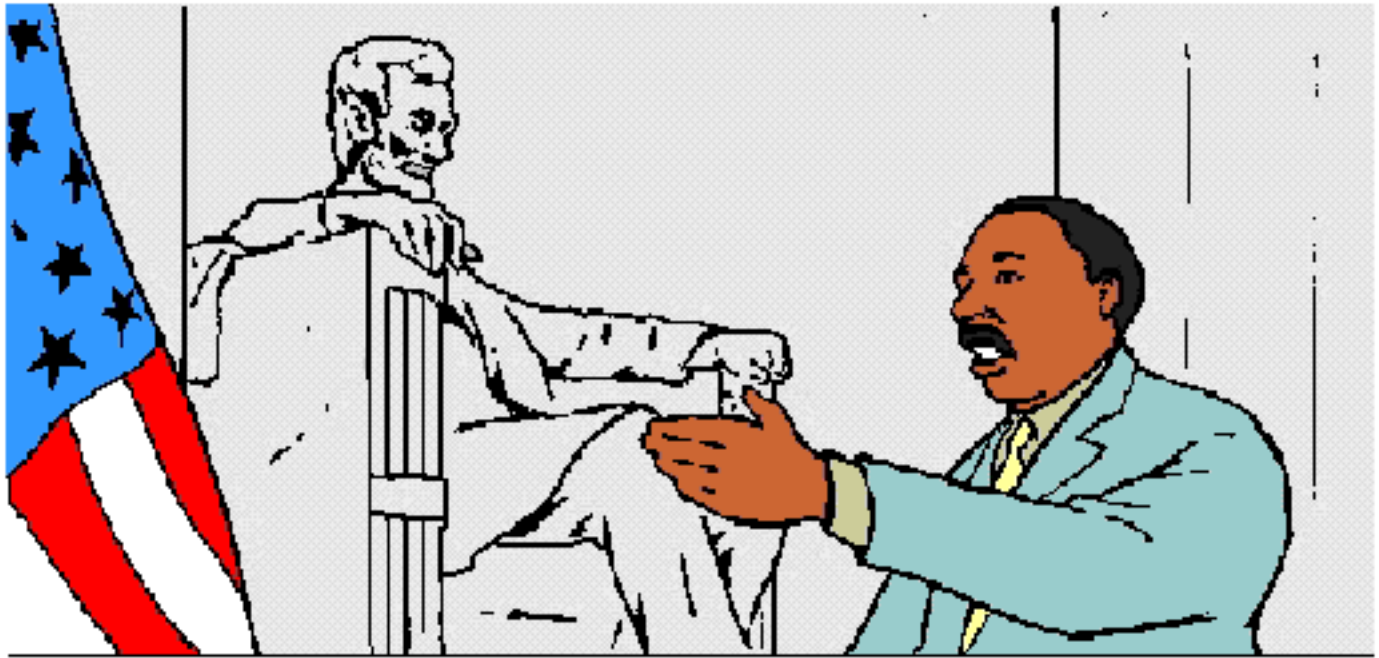
There were many boycotts and marches for freedom.

The laws of segregation were being changed all through the South, because of his leadership.





# Martin Luther King



In 1963, over 250,000 people marched in Washington, D.C. The people wanted the Congress to know they supported equal rights.

Dr. King gave his most famous speech, "I Have a Dream."

People often tried to stop Dr. King from doing his work. He was arrested and jailed a number of times for his cause.

Someone threw a bomb at his house, he was stabbed, called names, and mistreated. In 1964, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Dr. King and his family moved to Chicago in 1966. He continued working for racial equality.

In April 1968, he planned a "Poor People" march in Memphis, Tennessee.



# Martin Luther King



On the morning of April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King stood on the balcony outside his motel room.

Across the street in another house, James Earl Ray fired a gun and assassinated Martin Luther King. He was just thirty-nine years old.

People all over the world were shocked and saddened when Martin Luther King died.

He left his wife Coretta and his four children to carry on his dreams. He was a courageous and peaceable man.

On the third Monday of every January, we celebrate his birthday as a National holiday.

He believed he could make a difference...AND HE DID!



**MULTIPLE CHOICE**  
**Circle the correct answer.**

1. Martin Luther King wanted freedom and \_\_\_\_\_  
for all people.

- 1) equality
- 2) cars
- 3) telephones

2. Martin's parents taught him to treat others with  
respect.

true      false

3. Martin's \_\_\_\_\_ told him that he was as good as  
everyone else.

neighbors      parents      school

4. Martin Luther King became a \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1) captain
- 2) accountant
- 3) minister



5. Ghandi led the people of France.

true      false

6. Dr. King wanted to change the laws of \_\_\_\_\_.

segregation      service      peace

7. For a year black people did not ride the \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1) cars
- 2) planes
- 3) buses

8. The boycott cost the bus company a lot of money.

true      false

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**  
**Circle the correct answer.**

1. Martin Luther King gave speeches about \_\_\_\_\_ for all races.  
slavery    freedom    laws
2. There were many \_\_\_\_\_ for freedom.  
1) marches  
2) religions  
3) houses
3. Dr. King most famous speech was, "I Have A Dream".  
true    false
4. Dr. King was \_\_\_\_\_ the Nobel Peace Prize.  
shown    awarded    making
5. King planned a \_\_\_\_\_ in Tennessee.  
1) fund  
2) march  
3) life
6. Martin Luther King was born in 1968.  
true    false
7. King left his wife and children to carry on his \_\_\_\_\_.  
wishes    hopes    dreams
8. We celebrate Martin Luther King Day in \_\_\_\_\_.  
1) January  
2) March  
3) June



**FILL IN THE BLANK**  
**Print the correct word on each line.**



1. Martin Luther King was a great civil rights \_\_\_\_\_.

follower

leader

2. M. L. King \_\_\_\_\_ believe in violence.

did

did not

3. M. L. King wanted to change the \_\_\_\_\_ of segregation.

laws

books

4. The boycott cost the \_\_\_\_\_ company a lot of money.

bakery

bus

5. Someone threw a \_\_\_\_\_ at M. L. King's house.

ball

bomb

6. M. L. King was born in \_\_\_\_\_, Georgia.

Phoenix

Atlanta

**TRUE or FALSE**  
**Circle true or false.**



1. M. L. King was a great civil rights leader.  
true                      false
2. M. L. King was a Baptist minister.  
true                      false
3. Martin's parents taught him to treat others with hate.  
true                      false
4. M. L. King did not want to change the laws of segregation.  
true                      false
5. The boycott cost the bus company a lot of tires.  
true                      false
6. People often tried to stop Dr. King from doing his work.  
true                      false

**VOCABULARY**  
**Circle the correct answer.**



1. Being free to choose.

bondage

freedom

2. A group of singers.

choir

muppets

3. A way of protesting a change.

laugh

boycott

4. A means of transportation.

bus

television

5. To go in step with others.

ride

march

6. To think of as possible.

dream

impossible

## SPELLING

Print the correct spelling of the word on the line.



1. civil  
sevel  
sivel

\_\_\_\_\_

2. friedom  
phredom  
freedom

\_\_\_\_\_

3. surman  
sermon  
sirmem

\_\_\_\_\_

4. boycott  
boicott  
boecott

\_\_\_\_\_

5. rachel  
rashell  
racial

\_\_\_\_\_

6. pepple  
people  
people

\_\_\_\_\_

## WORD UNSCRAMBLE

Unscramble each word and print it on the line.



1. liivc \_\_\_\_\_

2. hurhc \_\_\_\_\_

3. kdinr \_\_\_\_\_

4. saprot \_\_\_\_\_

5. mbbo \_\_\_\_\_

6. mrdae \_\_\_\_\_



# Martin Luther King

## WORD FIND

Find and circle these words. They run down, across, and diagonally.

leader

pastor

church

peace

freedom

boycotts

marches

jailed

dreams

equal

killed

causes

c	c	m	g	n	r	y	v	f	r	e	e	d	o	m
g	a	u	d	r	e	a	m	s	f	p	m	a	w	s
l	h	u	p	o	n	m	v	s	q	u	c	x	g	t
e	e	t	s	u	e	t	m	a	r	c	h	e	s	k
a	l	c	h	e	r	m	l	e	s	s	o	n	j	w
d	p	h	m	e	s	b	k	e	p	p	b	l	d	b
e	f	u	c	l	e	k	n	c	r	e	e	w	r	o
r	u	r	t	y	n	i	c	h	s	a	k	i	j	y
w	l	c	a	v	e	l	j	o	a	c	f	q	s	c
f	r	h	e	w	r	l	j	v	d	e	k	o	p	o
d	b	i	n	s	e	e	t	j	a	i	l	e	d	t
p	r	i	v	s	w	d	x	b	s	n	m	p	g	t
p	a	s	t	o	r	m	a	e	q	u	a	l	y	s





# Martin Luther King

## CRISS CROSS

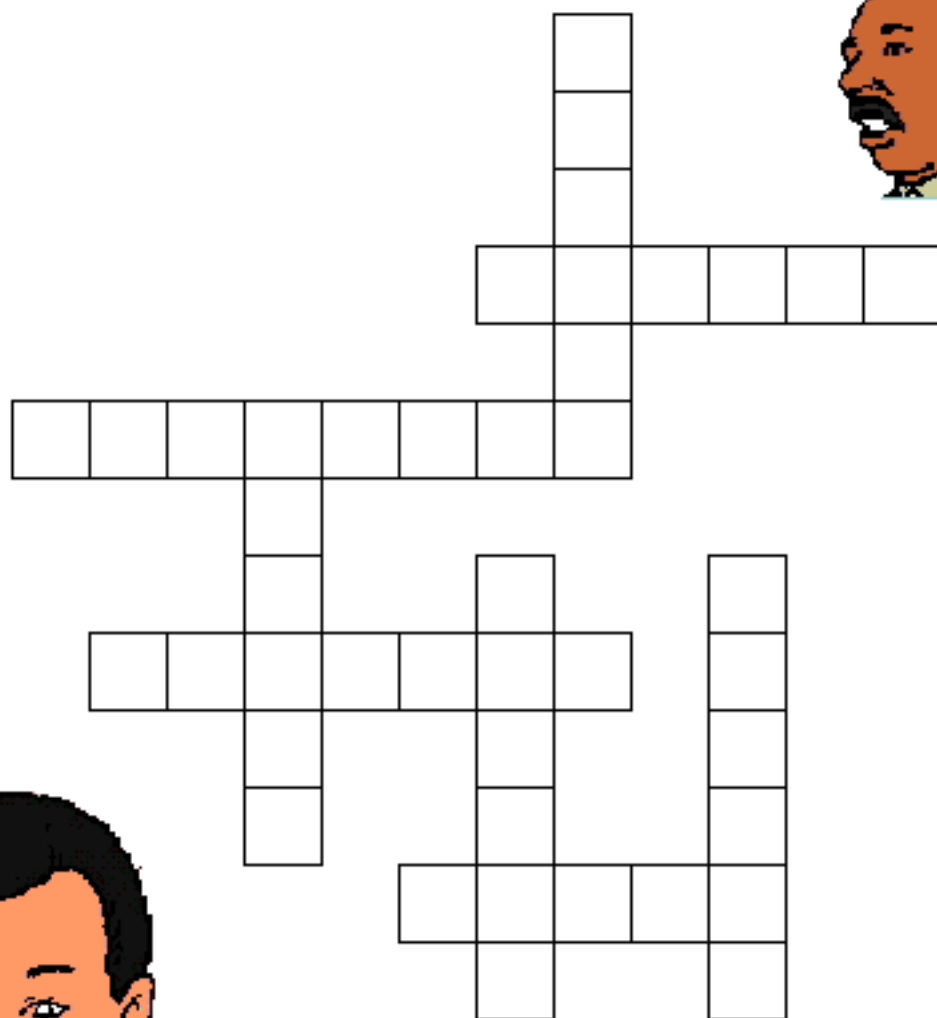
Can you fit these words into the criss cross?  
Use a pencil so you can erase if you need to.

boycotts  
peace

marches  
church

jailed  
pastor

leader  
dreams



**Page 7**

1. 1      2. true      3. parents      4. 3      5. false  
6. segregation      7. 3      8. true

**Page 8**

1. freedom      2. 1      3. true      4. awarded      5. 2      6. false  
7. dreams      8. 1

**Page 9**

leader, did not, laws, bus, bomb, Atlanta

**Page 10**

true, true, false, false, false, true

**Page 11**

freedom, choir, boycott, bus, march, dream

**Page 12**

civil, freedom, sermon, boycott, racial, people

**Page 13**

civil, church, drink, pastor, bomb, dream



# Martin Luther King

Key

## WORD FIND

Find and circle these words. They run down, across, and diagonally.

leader

pastor

church

peace

freedom

boycotts

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dreams

equal

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causes

c	c	m	g	n	r	y	v	f	r	e	e	d	o	m
g	a	u	d	r	e	a	m	s	f	p	m	a	w	s
l	h	u	p	o	n	m	v	s	q	u	c	x	g	t
e	e	t	s	u	e	t	m	a	r	c	h	e	s	k
a	l	c	h	e	r	m	l	e	s	s	o	n	j	w
d	p	h	m	e	s	b	k	e	p	p	b	l	d	b
e	f	u	c	l	e	k	n	c	r	e	e	w	r	o
r	u	r	t	y	n	i	c	h	s	a	k	i	j	y
w	l	c	a	v	e	l	j	o	a	c	f	q	s	c
f	r	h	e	w	r	l	j	v	d	e	k	o	p	o
d	b	i	n	s	e	e	t	j	a	i	l	e	d	t
p	r	i	v	s	w	d	x	b	s	n	m	p	g	t
p	a	s	t	o	r	m	a	e	q	u	a	l	y	s



# Martin Luther King

## CRISS CROSS Key

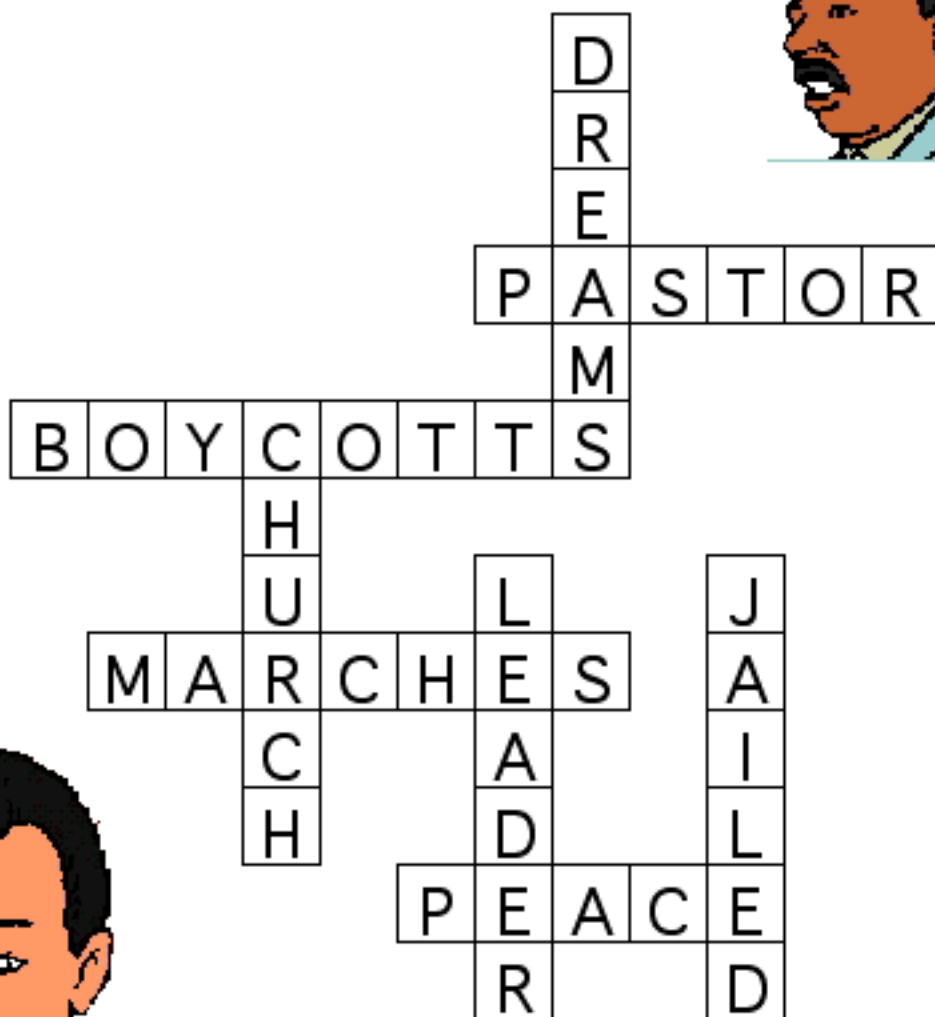
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boycotts  
peace

marches  
church

jailed  
pastor

leader  
dreams



# A Thematic Unit about



# Martin Luther King

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# Martin Luther King



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Martin Luther King

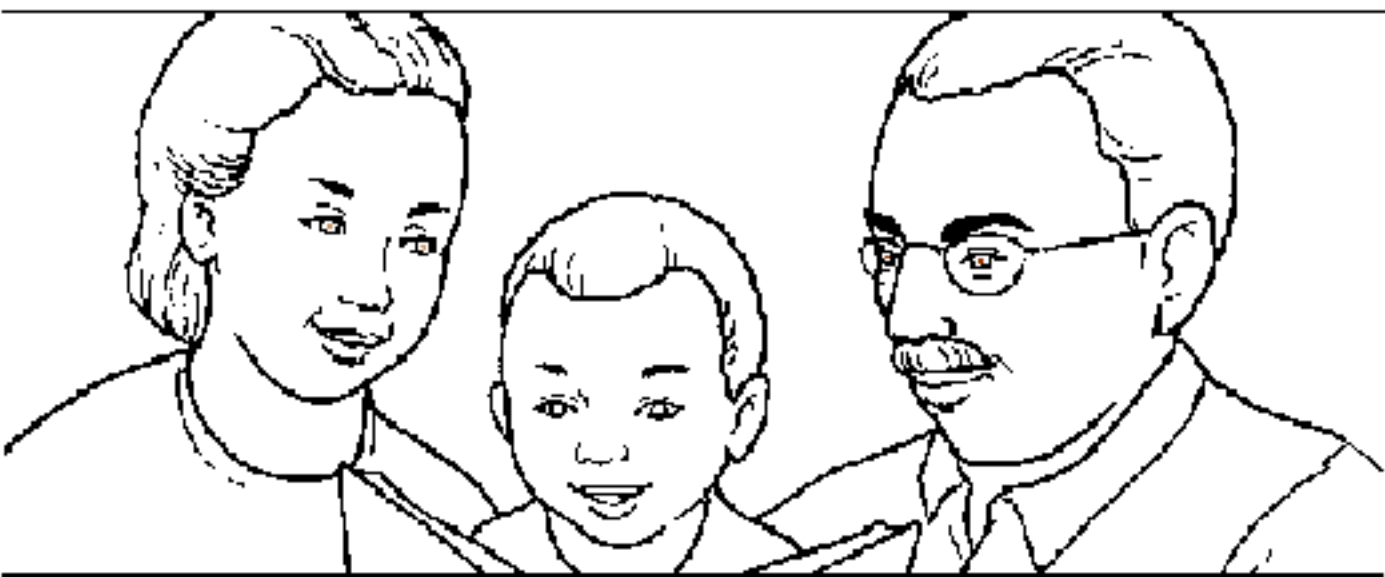
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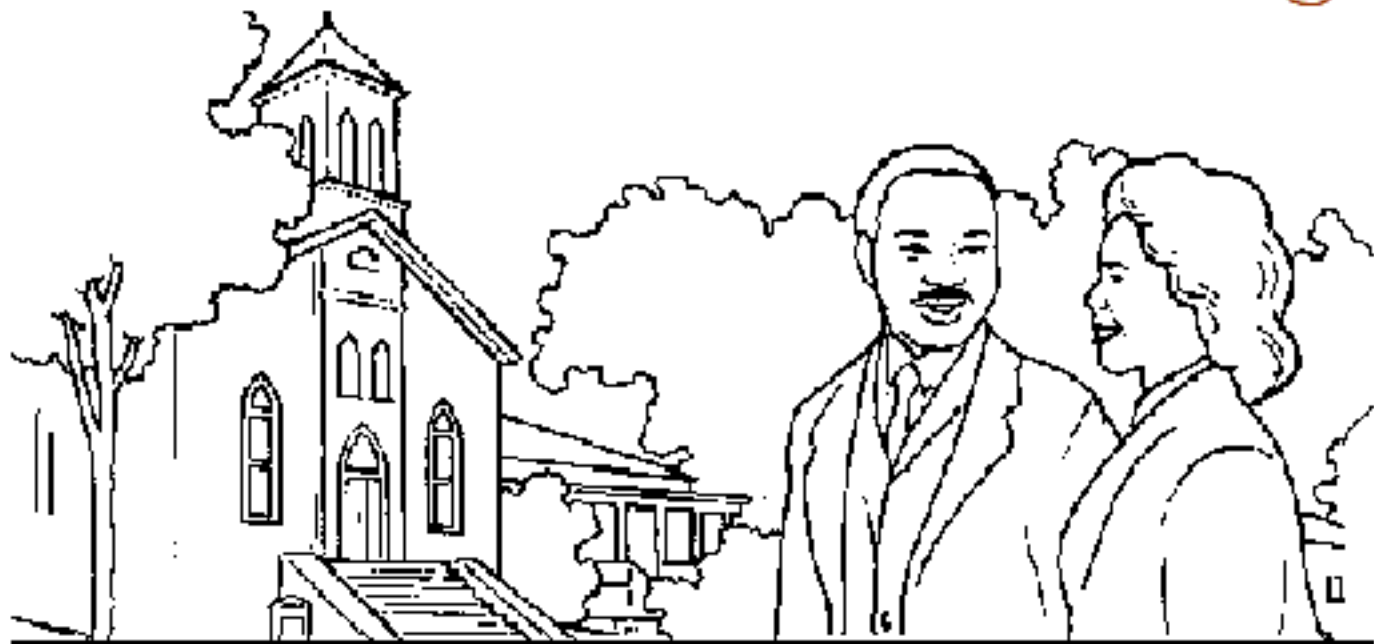
Martin's parents taught him responsibility, and to treat others with respect. Martin began to read before he started school. He enjoyed reading about the lives of black heroes and heroines.

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Martin's parents always told him he was as good as everyone else. He worked and studied hard in school. His goal was to make the world a better place to live.

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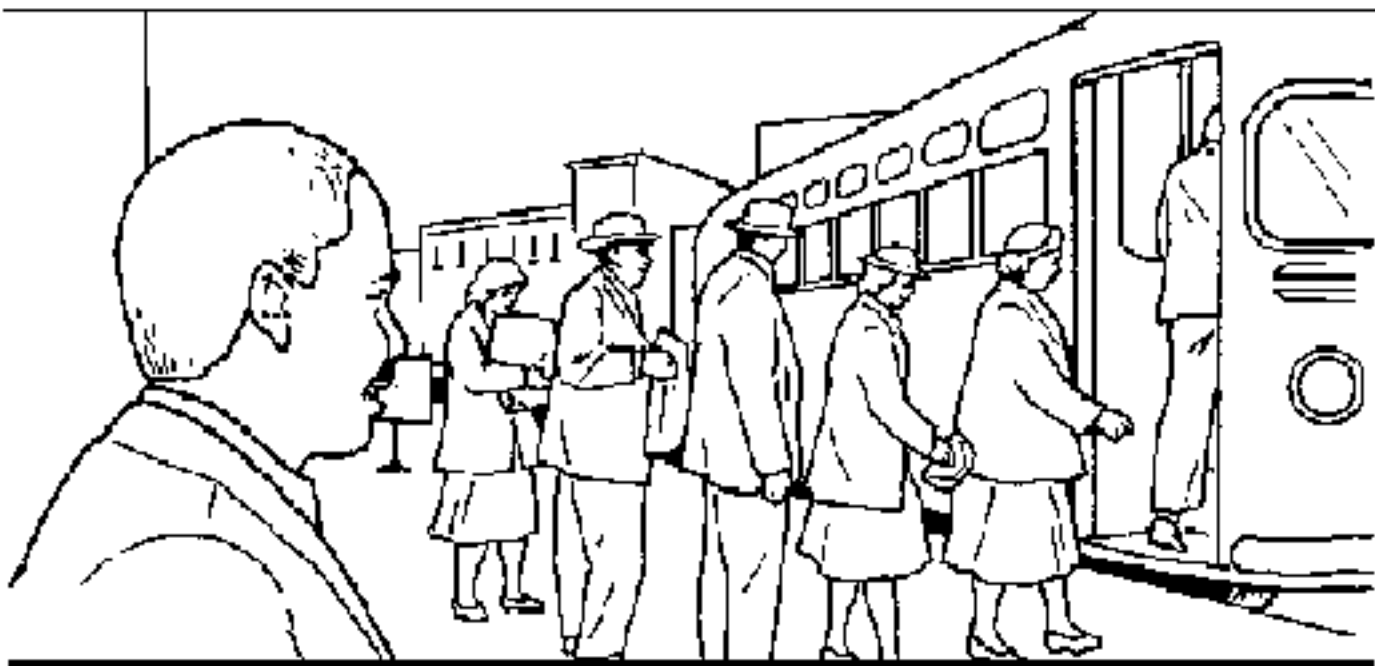
While at college Martin studied about a man named Gandhi. Gandhi led the people of India to change unjust laws in his country. Gandhi believed the laws could be changed peacefully and without violence. In 1947, the laws in India were changed. They won their freedom.

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# Martin Luther King



When Dr. King became the pastor, he became active in civil rights. He wanted to change the laws of segregation. In Montgomery, black people had to ride in the back of buses. They had to give up their seats to white people.

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks, a black woman was arrested in Montgomery. She refused to give up her seat on the bus so a white rider could sit. She had paid to ride on the bus, and wanted to be treated the same as the white people.

Dr. King urged the black people of Montgomery, not to ride the buses. This was called a boycott.

For the next year, black people did not use the buses.

The boycott cost the bus company a lot of money. Many black people were physically attacked. Dr. King urged his people not to fight back.



# Martin Luther King

It took a year, but the law was changed. Black people could sit anywhere on a bus

Dr. King traveled and spoke to thousands of people in many cities across the country.

He gave speeches about freedom for all races.

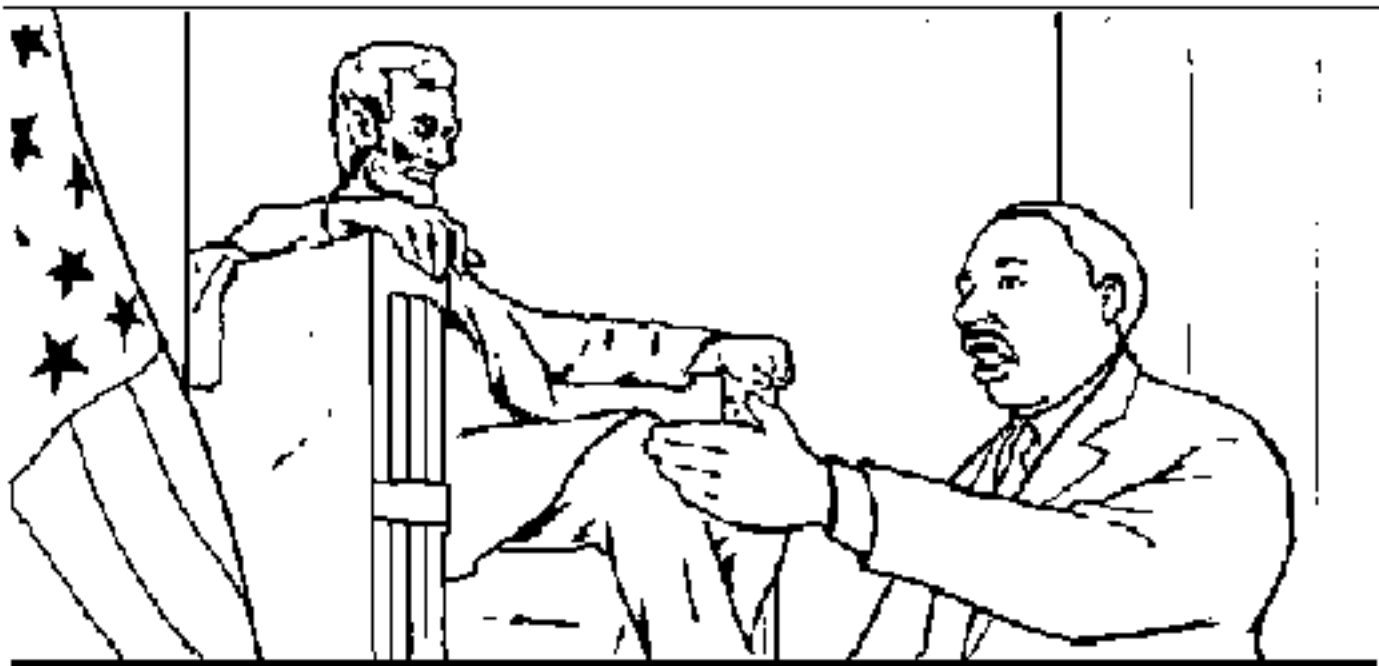
There were many boycotts and marches for freedom.

The laws of segregation were being changed all through the South, because of his leadership.





# Martin Luther King



In 1963, over 250,000 people marched in Washington, D.C. The people wanted the Congress to know they supported equal rights.

Dr. King gave his most famous speech, "I Have a Dream."

People often tried to stop Dr. King from doing his work. He was arrested and jailed a number of times for his cause.

Someone threw a bomb at his house, he was stabbed, called names, and mistreated. In 1964, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Dr. King and his family moved to Chicago in 1966. He continued working for racial equality.

In April 1968, he planned a "Poor People" march in Memphis, Tennessee.



# Martin Luther King



On the morning of April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King stood on the balcony outside his motel room.

Across the street in another house, James Earl Ray fired a gun and assassinated Martin Luther King. He was just thirty-nine years old.

People all over the world were shocked and saddened when Martin Luther King died.

He left his wife Coretta and his four children to carry on his dreams. He was a courageous and peaceable man.

On the third Monday of every January, we celebrate his birthday as a National holiday.

He believed he could make a difference...AND HE DID!

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**  
**Circle the correct answer.**

1. Martin Luther King wanted freedom and \_\_\_\_\_  
for all people.

- 1) equality
- 2) cars
- 3) telephones

2. Martin's parents taught him to treat others with  
respect.

true      false

3. Martin's \_\_\_\_\_ told him that he was as good as  
everyone else.

neighbors      parents      school

4. Martin Luther King became a \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1) captain
- 2) accountant
- 3) minister



5. Ghandi led the people of France.

true      false

6. Dr. King wanted to change the laws of \_\_\_\_\_.

segregation      service      peace

7. For a year black people did not ride the \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1) cars
- 2) planes
- 3) buses

8. The boycott cost the bus company a lot of money.

true      false

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**  
**Circle the correct answer.**

1. Martin Luther King gave speeches about \_\_\_\_\_ for all races.  
slavery freedom laws
2. There were many \_\_\_\_\_ for freedom.  
1) marches  
2) religions  
3) houses
3. Dr. King most famous speech was, "I Have A Dream".  
true false
4. Dr. King was \_\_\_\_\_ the Nobel Peace Prize.  
shown awarded making
5. King planned a \_\_\_\_\_ in Tennessee.  
1) fund  
2) march  
3) life
6. Martin Luther King was born in 1968.  
true false
7. King left his wife and children to carry on his \_\_\_\_\_.  
wishes hopes dreams
8. We celebrate Martin Luther King Day in \_\_\_\_\_.  
1) January  
2) March  
3) June



**FILL IN THE BLANK**  
**Print the correct word on each line.**



1. Martin Luther King was a great civil rights \_\_\_\_\_.

follower                      leader

2. M. L. King \_\_\_\_\_ believe in violence.

did                              did not

3. M. L. King wanted to change the \_\_\_\_\_ of segregation.

laws                            books

4. The boycott cost the \_\_\_\_\_ company a lot of money.

bakery                        bus

5. Someone threw a \_\_\_\_\_ at M. L. King's house.

ball                            bomb

6. M. L. King was born in \_\_\_\_\_, Georgia.

Phoenix                      Atlanta

**TRUE or FALSE**  
**Circle true or false.**



1. M. L. King was a great civil rights leader.  
true                      false
2. M. L. King was a Baptist minister.  
true                      false
3. Martin's parents taught him to treat others with hate.  
true                      false
4. M. L. King did not want to change the laws of segregation.  
true                      false
5. The boycott cost the bus company a lot of tires.  
true                      false
6. People often tried to stop Dr. King from doing his work.  
true                      false



**VOCABULARY**  
**Circle the correct answer.**



1. Being free to choose.

bondage

freedom

2. A group of singers.

choir

muppets

3. A way of protesting a change.

laugh

boycott

4. A means of transportation.

bus

television

5. To go in step with others.

ride

march

6. To think of as possible.

dream

impossible

## SPELLING

Print the correct spelling of the word on the line.



1. civil  
sevel  
sivel

\_\_\_\_\_

2. friedom  
phredom  
freedom

\_\_\_\_\_

3. surman  
sermon  
sirmem

\_\_\_\_\_

4. boycott  
boicott  
boecott

\_\_\_\_\_

5. rachel  
rashell  
racial

\_\_\_\_\_

6. pepple  
people  
people

\_\_\_\_\_

## WORD UNSCRAMBLE

Unscramble each word and print it on the line.



1. liivc \_\_\_\_\_

2. hurhc \_\_\_\_\_

3. kdinr \_\_\_\_\_

4. saprot \_\_\_\_\_

5. mbbo \_\_\_\_\_

6. mrdae \_\_\_\_\_



# Martin Luther King

## WORD FIND

Find and circle these words. They run down, across, and diagonally.

leader

pastor

church

peace

freedom

boycotts

marches

jailed

dreams

equal

killed

causes

c	c	m	g	n	r	y	v	f	r	e	e	d	o	m
g	a	u	d	r	e	a	m	s	f	p	m	a	w	s
l	h	u	p	o	n	m	v	s	q	u	c	x	g	t
e	e	t	s	u	e	t	m	a	r	c	h	e	s	k
a	l	c	h	e	r	m	l	e	s	s	o	n	j	w
d	p	h	m	e	s	b	k	e	p	p	b	l	d	b
e	f	u	c	l	e	k	n	c	r	e	e	w	r	o
r	u	r	t	y	n	i	c	h	s	a	k	i	j	y
w	l	c	a	v	e	l	j	o	a	c	f	q	s	c
f	r	h	e	w	r	l	j	v	d	e	k	o	p	o
d	b	i	n	s	e	e	t	j	a	i	l	e	d	t
p	r	i	v	s	w	d	x	b	s	n	m	p	g	t
p	a	s	t	o	r	m	a	e	q	u	a	l	y	s



# Martin Luther King

## CRISS CROSS

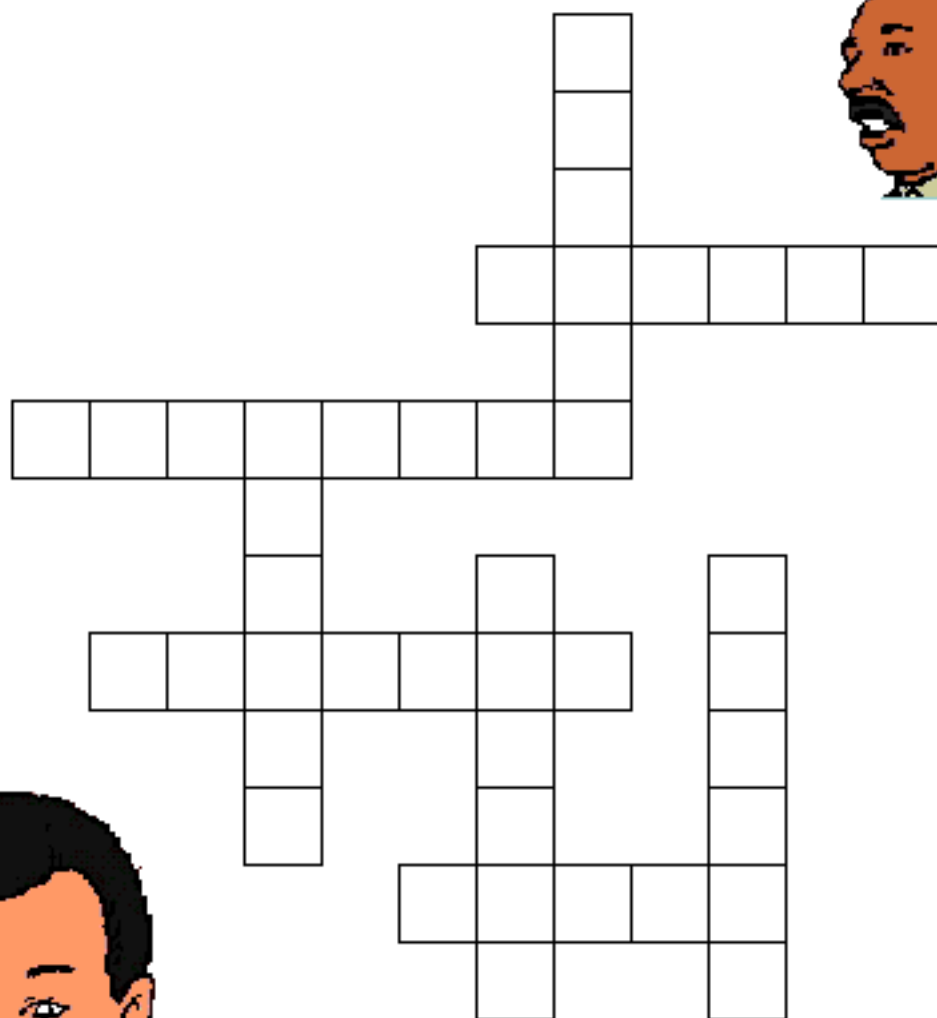
Can you fit these words into the criss cross?  
Use a pencil so you can erase if you need to.

boycotts  
peace

marches  
church

jailed  
pastor

leader  
dreams



**Page 7**

1. 1      2. true      3. parents      4. 3      5. false  
6. segregation      7. 3      8. true

**Page 8**

1. freedom      2. 1      3. true      4. awarded      5. 2      6. false  
7. dreams      8. 1

**Page 9**

leader, did not, laws, bus, bomb, Atlanta

**Page 10**

true, true, false, false, false, true

**Page 11**

freedom, choir, boycott, bus, march, dream

**Page 12**

civil, freedom, sermon, boycott, racial, people

**Page 13**

civil, church, drink, pastor, bomb, dream



# Martin Luther King

Key

## WORD FIND

Find and circle these words. They run down, across, and diagonally.

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c	c	m	g	n	r	y	v	f	r	e	e	d	o	m
g	a	u	d	r	e	a	m	s	f	p	m	a	w	s
l	h	u	p	o	n	m	v	s	q	u	c	x	g	t
e	e	t	s	u	e	t	m	a	r	c	h	e	s	k
a	l	c	h	e	r	m	l	e	s	s	o	n	j	w
d	p	h	m	e	s	b	k	e	p	p	b	l	d	b
e	f	u	c	l	e	k	n	c	r	e	e	w	r	o
r	u	r	t	y	n	i	c	h	s	a	k	i	j	y
w	l	c	a	v	e	l	j	o	a	c	f	q	s	c
f	r	h	e	w	r	l	j	v	d	e	k	o	p	o
d	b	i	n	s	e	e	t	j	a	i	l	e	d	t
p	r	i	v	s	w	d	x	b	s	n	m	p	g	t
p	a	s	t	o	r	m	a	e	q	u	a	l	y	s



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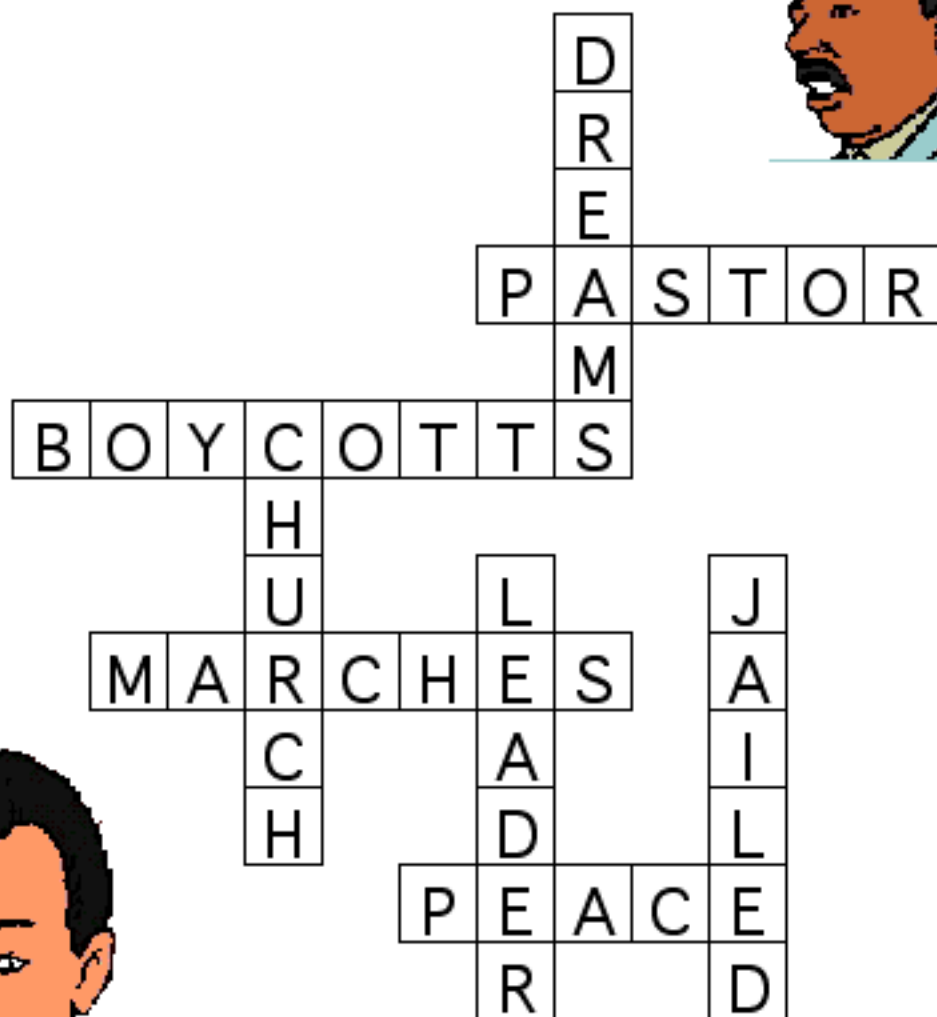
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leader  
dreams





# A Thematic Unit about



# Martin Luther King

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