

Dr Martin Luther King - 'Dream on'

Born: 15 January 1929



1. As the pupils enter

Have the webpage open:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/assemblies-ks2-martin-luther-king-mlk-dream-on-black-history-month/zwtxwnb>

Play your chosen music and display the image of Martin Luther King:

http://teach.files.bbc.co.uk/schoolradio/assemblies/images/martin_luther_king_iB.jpg

2. Introduction

Can anyone tell me who this picture is of? [Allow answers]

The picture was taken 1961 and it shows Dr Martin Luther King.

Dr King was born on the 15th of January 1929 and lived in America...where every year there is a public holiday to remember and celebrate his life. At the time Martin Luther King lived, much of America did not allow the same rights to all its citizens - for example, a black person might not be allowed to go to the same places or do the same things as a white person. Dr King devoted his life to finding peaceful ways to struggle against that injustice and became a figure-head for what is known as the Civil Rights Movement. He is particularly famous for a speech he gave - one of the most famous speeches of all time - in which he outlined his vision for a fairer, more just society for everyone. Today we call it the 'I have a dream speech'.

In our story a woman remembers how, as a child, she was taken by her father to hear that famous speech...

3. Play the video

Click on the 'Play video' button to load the video page. The video should play automatically. Display the video full-size using the toolbar buttons. The duration is 6' 05". The final words are: '...and I say: "Amen to that."'

4 & 5. Time to talk

Ask children to tell you what they think is the most important thing to take away from the story. You could use the Story questions as prompts. You may also wish to share the following information with the group: i) Dr Martin Luther King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, aged just 35; ii) he was assassinated in 1968.

6. Opportunity to sing

An opportunity to sing your chosen song.

Play video



7. Opportunity to reflect

When the time is right you could ask pupils to reflect on these words:

Think about the message of Dr Martin Luther King...

Do you try to treat everyone fairly..?
How can you make life better for someone today..?

8. Opportunity for prayer

If you wish you can include a prayer beginning with your standard form of address and then:

We thank you for the life of Martin Luther King and what we can all learn from it.

Help us to remember that, in the words of Dr King himself:
'Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.'
Amen.