

Martin Luther King Jr.



Martin Luther King Jr. was a leader. When he was young, there were many unfair laws. He worked to make laws fair.

King taught people to treat one another with kindness. He was a very good speaker. He spoke to large groups of people. He told them about his dream. His dream was that all people would be treated fairly. He wanted all kinds of people to live together in peace.

Today we honor Martin Luther King Jr. with a holiday. We celebrate his holiday every January.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: For questions 1-4, circle the correct answer.

1. What problem did many laws have when Martin Luther King Jr. was young?

- a) No one followed the laws.
- b) The laws were unfair.
- c) The laws were fair.

2. This passage describes Martin Luther King Jr. and the work that he did. How does the passage describe MLK Jr.?

- a) a shy and quiet man
- b) a leader and good speaker
- c) a strong fighter

3. Martin Luther King Jr. *dreamed* that all people would be treated fairly and he *wanted* people to live together in peace. What does this tell us about life in America when MLK Jr. was alive?

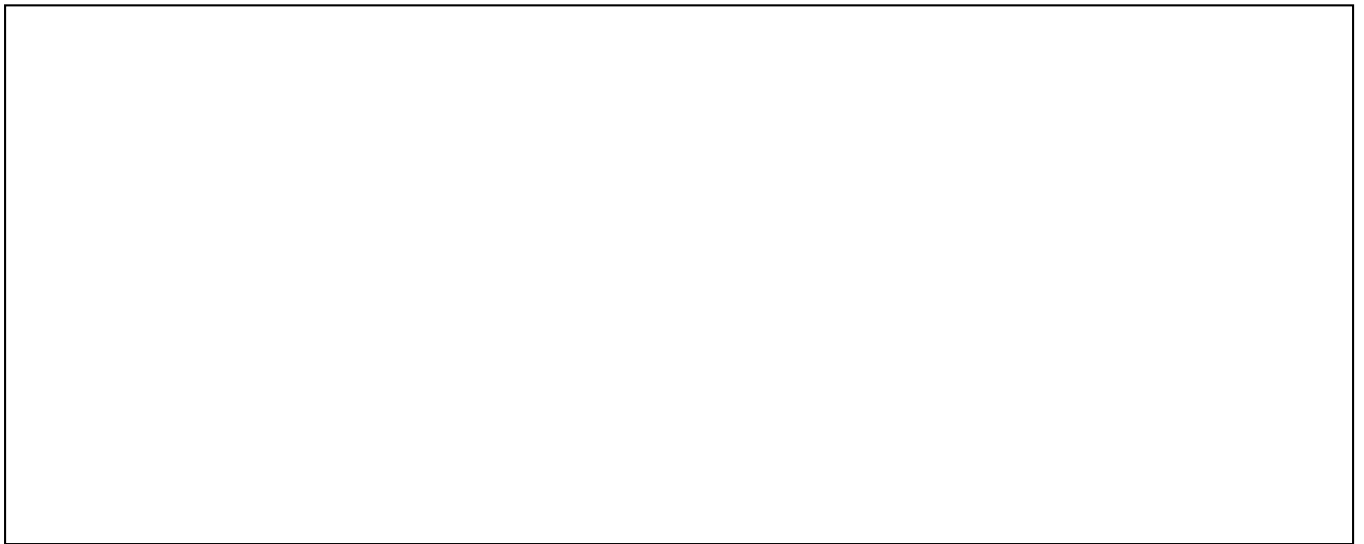
- a) People were not being treated fairly or living together in peace.
- b) People in America had many friends and lived together happily.
- c) There was a war in America with lots of fighting.

4. What is the main idea in "Martin Luther King Jr."?

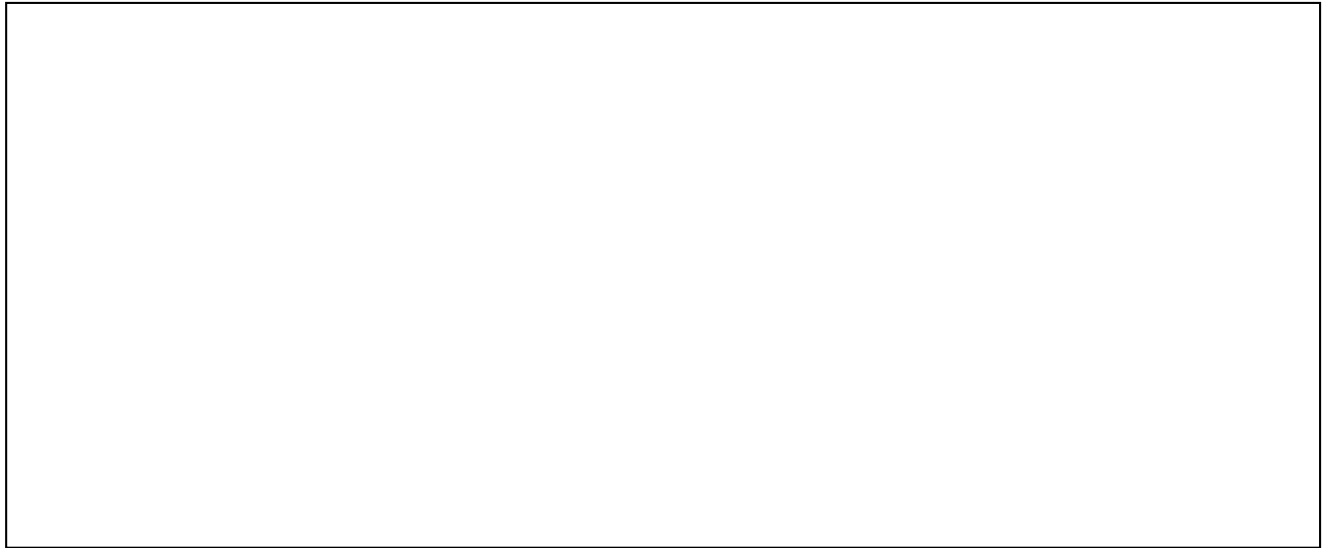
- a) Martin Luther King Jr. is a great and important person.
- b) Martin Luther King Jr. was the best American president.
- c) Martin Luther King Jr. was a very good speaker.

5. A) How did Martin Luther King Jr. teach us to treat one another?

B) Draw a picture of all kinds of people living together in peace.



6. What did you learn from "Martin Luther King Jr."?



7. Class Discussion Question: Explain why Martin Luther King Jr. is an important person in American history and why we have a holiday to honor him.

Teacher Guide & Answers

Note to Teacher: Read each question out loud to your students and have each student complete the worksheet independently. For questions 5 A) and 6, you can have students draw their answers, answer orally, or write their answers depending on your students' progress. If you have them write their answers, you may want to write the word(s) on the board for them to copy. Question 7 is a class discussion question.

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 470

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5. A) *Note to Teacher: See note at the top of the first page.*

How did Martin Luther King Jr. teach us to treat one another?

Suggested answer: with kindness

- B) Draw a picture of all kinds of people living together in peace.

Suggested answer: Students' pictures may vary but should include several different looking people living peacefully together (perhaps the people have a smile on their face or are playing a game together). The best pictures will have people, not just with different colored eyes or hair but also different colored skin and diverse clothing.

6. *Note to Teacher: See note at the top of the first page.*

What did you learn from "Martin Luther King Jr."?

Suggested answer: Answers may vary and should be supported by the passage.

7. *Note to Teacher: See note at the top of the first page.*

Class Discussion Question: Explain why Martin Luther King Jr. is an important person in American history and why we have a holiday to honor him.

Suggested answer: Answers may vary but students should explain that Martin Luther King Jr. was a good man. He taught us to treat one another with kindness and he wanted everyone to live together in peace. This makes him a good example. We honor him with a holiday because he worked hard to make our country a better place by being kind to others and working to make laws fair.