

“He had a dream...



I have one too.”

By: \_\_\_\_\_

# Martin Luther King, Jr.

1929 – 1968



“I have a dream that one day...  
the sons of former slaves and the sons  
of former slave owners will be able to  
sit down together at the table of brotherhood...  
I have a dream that my four little children will  
one day live in a nation where they will not be  
judged by the color of their skin but by the  
content of their character.”

(March on Washington, August 28, 1963)

To be equal means to be the same. No two people are ever the same. But all people should be treated the same. All people should be treated fairly.

When Martin was growing up in the south, blacks were not treated the same as white people. They were not treated fairly. For example:

- ☞ Black people could not eat in the same restaurants as white people.
- ☞ Black children could not go to school with white children.
- ☞ Black people had to give their seats to white people on buses and trains.
- ☞ Black people could not vote.

Martin Luther King, Jr. spent his whole life trying to make things better for every citizen of this nation. Slowly, the laws changed. Even though he faced many threats and injustices, he kept on working to achieve his dream.

Then, in 1968, he went to Memphis, Tennessee, to march with unpaid workers. When he stepped out onto the balcony of his motel room, James Earl Ray saw him and fired his gun. Martin Luther King, Jr. died that day. It was April 4<sup>th</sup>.

His birthday, January 15, is now a holiday and it is celebrated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of January. On that day every year, we remember what Dr. King did for every American, both black and white. He hoped that someday all people would be treated equally in this country. We must continue his work and make that dream come true. His life will remain an inspiration to following generations.



# Making it Come True

What can you do to make your dream come true? Think of some steps or actions that could make it a reality and not just a dream.

**Step 1**

**Your Dream  
Becomes Reality**

**Step 2**

**Step 3**

# The Effects

If your dream were to come true, what are some of the effects that it would have on the world?

