



## MARTIN LUTHER KING SUB PLANS

Martin Luther King Jr. Substitute Plans

Date: January

Academic Time: 215 minutes

See all printable activities at the end of this document.

### **Initial conversation and Starter Questions (20 Minutes)**

Today is Martin Luther King Day.

Why do we celebrate MLK?

What do we know about him?

What was he fighting for?

What events is he famous for?

How do we honor him today?

### **Starter Activity 20 minutes**

Have students complete the coloring activity featuring the first Martin Luther King American postage stamp.

### **Language Arts activity 1: 40 minutes**

#### **Martin Luther King Reading Comprehension and question set.**

- Have students work independently.
- Give 15-25 minutes to read and finish questions
- Have students volunteer to read portions of the narrative aloud. Use your discretion to stop and discuss.
- Review answers to questions.

## **Language Arts activity 2: 40 minutes**

### **Martin Luther King Main Idea and Supporting Details Sentences.**

- Introduce activity
- Discuss the concept of how sentences in a paragraph in a biographical or research essay should support the main idea of that paragraph. For example, if we are writing a paragraph about King's childhood, all of the sentences in that paragraph should describe events that occurred while he was a child.
- Have students work independently.
- Monitor
- Review answers with students.

## **Math activity - MLK statistics activity 30 minutes**

(King statistics and number sense)

- Review the Montgomery Bus Boycott and tell students it remained in effect for 381 days. Tell students that we are going to use the number 381 to come up with solutions for the math problems on the document. The questions are listed below.
- Students can work individually or in a small group.
- Monitor
- Review answers

The Montgomery bus boycott lasted 381 days.

How many weeks?

How many fortnights? How many days are left over?

What if it lasted six weeks longer?

How many days more than a year?

Given it started on December 5, 1955, what day did it end?

A year on Mercury is 88 Earth days, how many Mercury years did the Montgomery Bus Boycott last?

A year on Mars is 687 Earth days. How many more days would the boycott have had to last to equal one year on Mars?

## **Geography Activity - MLK Places Activity 30 Minutes**

- Explain to students that the travels of Martin Luther King were largely limited to the eastern and southern United States. Have students place the events in their correct states on the map. Students may need to reference a labeled United States Map.

## **Ending Activity - Civil Rights Timeline 35 minutes (Computer activity)**

- Discuss how Martin Luther King fought for Civil Rights. Explain to students that the fight for those rights started well before King lived and continued after he died.
- Brainstorm some other events in Civil Rights history. Discuss with students some of the landmark events such as the 1954 Brown vs Education ruling, the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott, the 1963 March on Washington, and others.
- Share with students the following link:

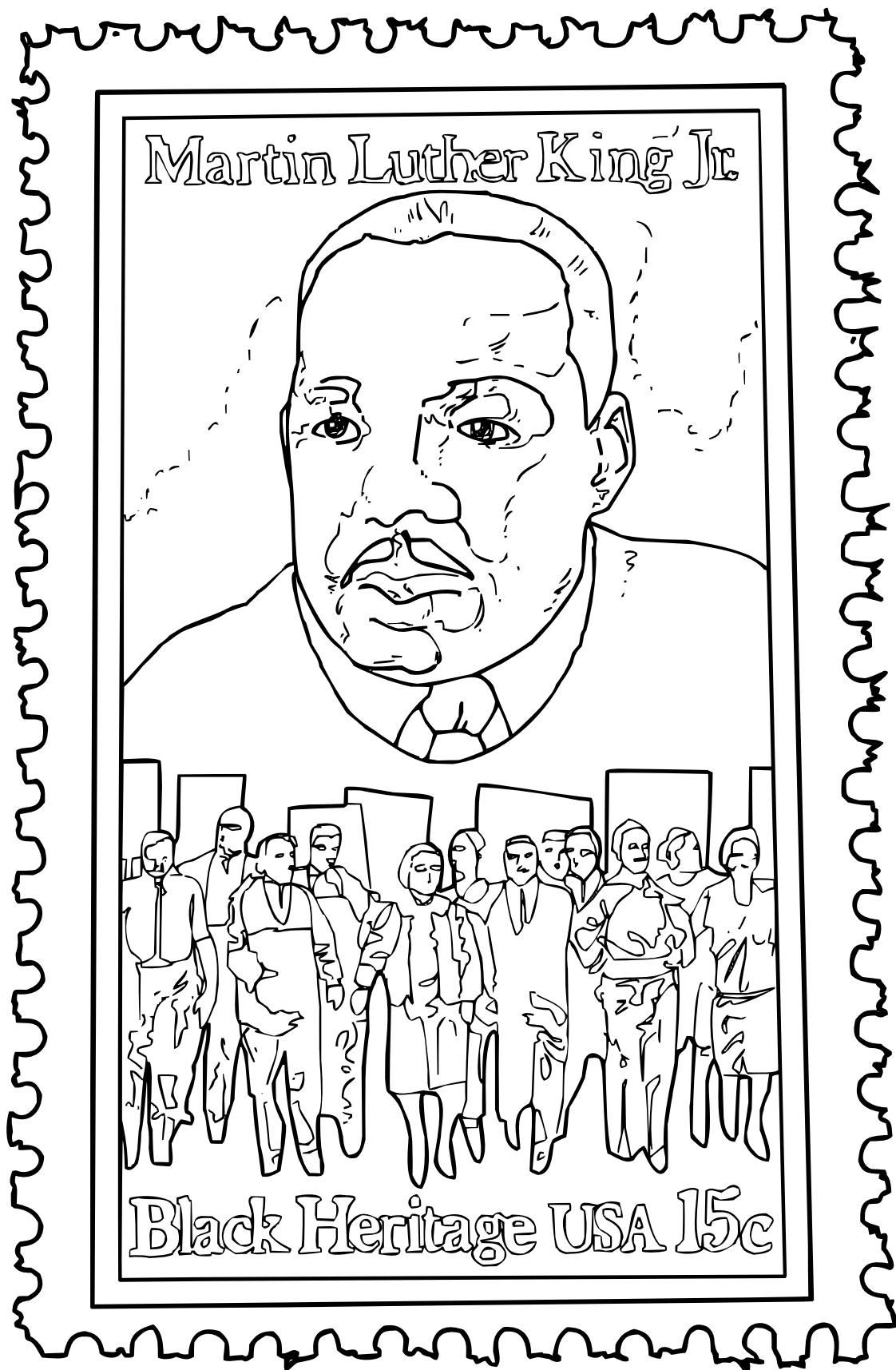
<https://mrnussbaum.com/civil-rights-timeline-online-game>

- Explain to students that the purpose of this game is to recognize the Civil Rights events in history, and to place them in their proper order in the timeline. The game has three rounds. When they have placed all of the events, click “check” to see how many are in their correct places.
- Explain that it is a challenging game and there may be some events they’re not familiar with. Consider offering an award for the student or team of students who make it the farthest or who achieve the highest score.
- Monitor and use your discretion in guiding students on this activity.

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Martin Luther King Jr. stamp

15 cents

## Dr. King

Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. King graduated from Morehouse College in 1948 and then from the Crozer Theological Seminary with a Bachelor's in Divinity in 1951. He received a Ph.D. in Systematic theology in 1955 from Boston University.

In 1954, King became pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama where he led the bus boycott after Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat on a public bus. The boycott lasted 381 days and resulted in King being arrested. Despite his arrest, the boycott ultimately resulted in the Supreme Court outlawing discrimination on intrastate buses.

After the boycott, King helped in the founding of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) which advocated the peaceful protest of Black churches concerning Civil Rights (especially in the American south). Primarily inspired by the non-violent protests conducted by Mahatma Gandhi in India, King was instrumental in helping his cause gain national attention through the media. Because of his efforts, civil rights became the top political issue of the early 1960's.

In 1963, King delivered the immortal speech "*I have a Dream*" in front of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington. Over 250,000 people gathered around the National Mall in support. King's speech electrified the crowd and is considered one of the greatest speeches in American history. King later led protests and gave speeches for the African American right to vote, desegregation, and fair hiring. In 1964, King's hopes were realized when congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and then, the Voting Rights Act of 1965. On October 14, 1964, King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his leadership in non-violent protest.

In 1968, while he was organizing a march to protest the working conditions of black sanitation workers in Memphis, Tennessee, King was assassinated by James Earl Ray at the Lorraine Hotel. Following his assassination, major riots erupted in more than 100 American cities, including in Washington D.C., and Baltimore, Maryland. King was buried on April 9, 1968. 300,000 people attended his funeral. President Lyndon B. Johnson declared a national day of mourning.

Today, numerous schools, buildings, and highways are named for Martin Luther King Jr. In 1986, a U.S. national holiday was established in his honor on the third Monday of January each year, around the time of his birthday. On January 18, 1993, for the first time, Martin Luther King Day was officially observed in all 50 U.S. states.

### 1. What was the main effect of King's bus boycott?

- A. Rosa Parks became famous
- B. It led to the "I have a Dream speech"
- C. It led to King's arrest
- D. It led to an outlaw on discrimination on intrastate buses

**2. What does “instrumental” mean in the following sentence?**

King was instrumental in helping his cause gain national attention through the media.

- A. helpless
- B. very helpful
- C. musical
- D. unsuccessful

**3. What inspired Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.?**

- A. Mahatma Gandhi
- B. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference
- C. Boycotts
- D. Boston University

**4. Which of the following was the culminating effect of Dr. King’s efforts?**

- A. The Civil Rights Act of 1964
- B. The “I Have a Dream” speech
- C. Non-violent protests
- D. The founding of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference

**5. Which is NOT true about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.?**

- A. He won the Nobel Peace Prize
- B. He gave his “I Have a Dream” speech in front of the Lincoln Memorial
- C. He was assassinated by James Earl Ray
- D. By 1986, all states had declared Martin Luther King Day a national holiday

**6. Which of the following details supports the fact that people were enraged after the assassination of Dr. King?**

- A. 300,000 people attended his funeral
- B. Riots broke out in over 100 cities following his assassination
- C. A national holiday was named in his honor
- D. President Johnson declared a national day of mourning following his death

**7. The final paragraph describes the...**

- A. death of Dr. King.
- B. legacy of Dr. King.
- C. schools named in his honor.
- D. memorial built in his honor in Washington, D.C.

**Headings and Supporting Details – Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Below are three headings at the beginnings of paragraphs. Below the chart are the associated supporting detail sentences. Which sentences would appear under which heading? Use the numbers before the sentences so you don't have to write the entire sentence. Order matters!

<b>Peaceful Protest</b>	<b>I have a Dream</b>	<b>Legacy</b>

1. Over 250,000 people listened in front of the Lincoln Memorial in what would become one of the most important speeches in American history.
2. His most famous protest came after Rosa Parks was arrested in 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama, for refusing to relinquish her seat to a white passenger.
3. Today, King is remembered as America's most powerful force in the eternal fight for Civil Rights.
4. His actions signaled the beginning of the end for a nation's history of discriminating against African-Americans.
5. Among other things, King's dream included living to see the day when his children would be judged by their character rather than their skin color.
6. King galvanized the African-American community of Montgomery to boycott the buses until the law that permitted discrimination was abolished.
7. Martin Luther King believed in non-violent protests and was inspired by Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi.

<b>Peaceful Protest</b>	<b>I have a Dream</b>	<b>Legacy</b>
7 2 6	1 5	3 4

## Montgomery Bus Boycott Number Sense



Rosa Parks - Public Domain Image

Directions: Compute the answers to the following questions

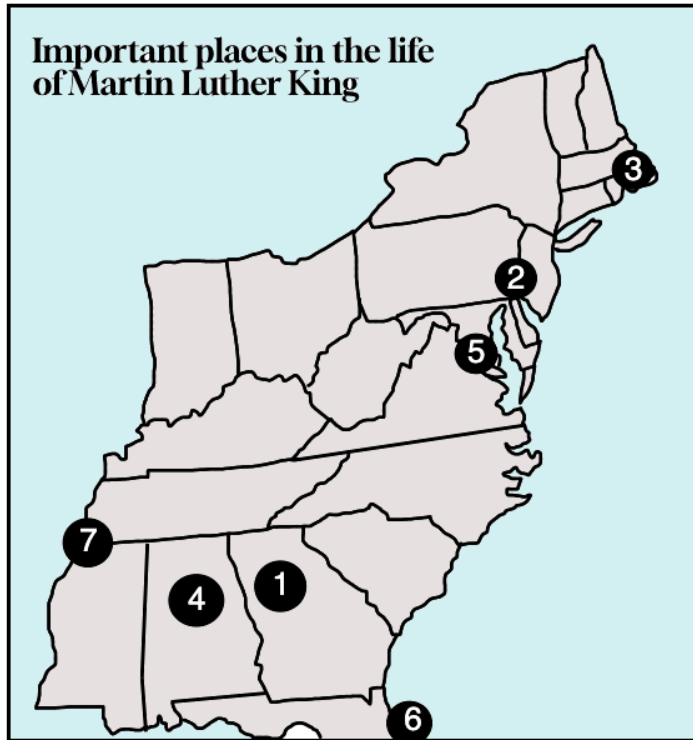
***The Montgomery Bus Boycott lasted 381 Days***

- 1.) How many weeks did the Montgomery Bus Boycott last?
- 2.) How many fortnights?
- 3.) If the boycott lasted six additional weeks, how many days would have it lasted?
- 4.) How many days MORE THAN a year did the boycott last?
- 5.) Given it started on December 5, 1955, what day did it end?
- 6.) A year on Mercury is 88 Earth days, how many Mercury years did the Montgomery Bus Boycott last?
- 7.) A year on Mars is 687 Earth days. How many more days would the boycott have had to last to equal one year on Mars?

**Answers:**

- 1.) 54 weeks and 2 days
- 2.) 27.2 fortnights
- 3.)  $381 + 42 = 423$  days
- 4.) 16 days
- 5.) December 21, 1956
- 6.) 4.33 years or 4 years and 29 days
- 7.) 306 days.

## Martin Luther King Geography



1.)	Which bubble shows where the Montgomery Bus Boycott took place?	
2.)	Which bubble shows where King delivered his “I have a Dream” speech?	
3.)	Which bubble shows where Martin Luther King was Assassinated?	
4.)	Which bubble shows where Martin Luther King was born?	
5.)	Which bubble shows where King earned his Ph.D in systematic theology?	
6.)	Which bubble shows where King was arrested for demanding service at an “all-white” restaurant?	
7.)	Which bubble shows where King attended a theological seminary?	

Answers:

1.)	Which bubble shows where the Montgomery Bus Boycott took place?	4
2.)	Which bubble shows where King delivered his "I have a Dream" speech?	5
3.)	Which bubble shows where Martin Luther King was Assassinated?	7
4.)	Which bubble shows where Martin Luther King was born?	1
5.)	Which bubble shows where King earned his Ph.D in systematic theology?	3
6.)	Which bubble shows where King was arrested for demanding service at an "all-white" restaurant?	6
7.)	Which bubble shows where King attended a theological seminary?	2

- 1.) Montgomery, Alabama
- 2.) Washington, D.C.
- 3.) Memphis, TN
- 4.) Atlanta, GA
- 5.) Boston, MA
- 6.) St. Augustine, FL
- 7.) Upland, PA