



Share your dream for America

Be inspired by the words and example of the visionary leader we remember on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

On January 15 this year, the US will observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The federal holiday honors Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a preacher and community leader who devoted his life to achieving racial equality for all people. He was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. When he was growing up, segregation (the unjust separation of Black people from white people) was legal. Black children weren't allowed to attend school with white children. Jobs and houses were denied to Black people, and many restaurants refused to serve them. Black people couldn't sit next to white people on buses and trains or use the same bathrooms.

King studied religion and philosophy in college. He was also an activist (someone who takes action for a cause). In the 1950s and 1960s, he led peaceful protests to end segregation and registered Black people to vote. After a protest against segregation in Birmingham, Alabama, in April 1963, King was arrested and put in jail, where he wrote a famous letter saying, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." In

August 1963, more than 250,000 people joined King at the March on Washington in the US capital to call for the passage of a national civil rights law. The Civil Rights Act was passed in 1964, making segregation illegal, and King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize that year. In 1965, the Voting Rights Act outlawed racial discrimination in voting. On April 4, 1968, King was standing on a hotel balcony in Memphis, Tennessee, when he was shot and killed by a racist white man.

In 1986, the third Monday of January became a national holiday. Martin Luther King Jr. Day is the only US holiday designated as a National Day of Service to encourage Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. If you'd like to participate, the famous quotes from King below may inspire you. You may have dreams for our nation, as he did. We invite you to use the form at right to write your thoughts. If you'd like to share your form with *The Week Junior*, ask an adult to email it to hello@theweekjunior.com. Extra forms are at theweekjunior.com/activities.

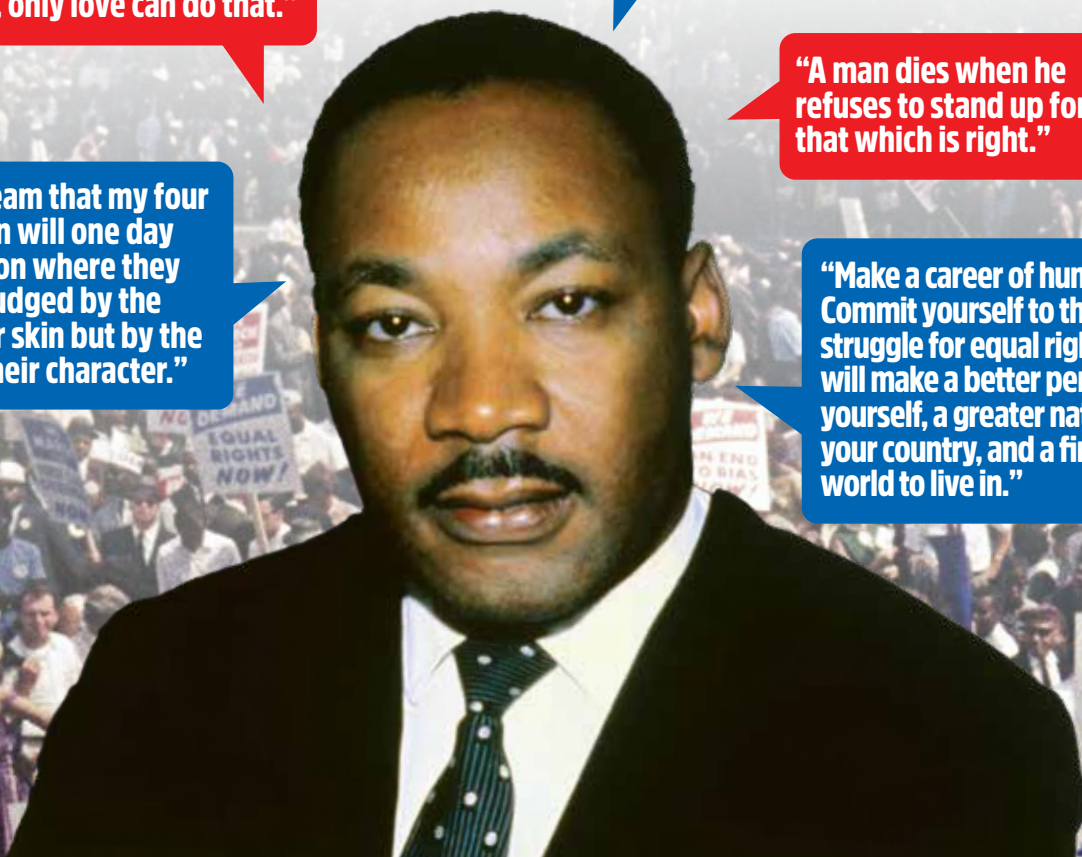
"Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that."

"True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice."

"A man dies when he refuses to stand up for that which is right."

"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."

"Make a career of humanity. Commit yourself to the noble struggle for equal rights. You will make a better person of yourself, a greater nation of your country, and a finer world to live in."



First name

Age

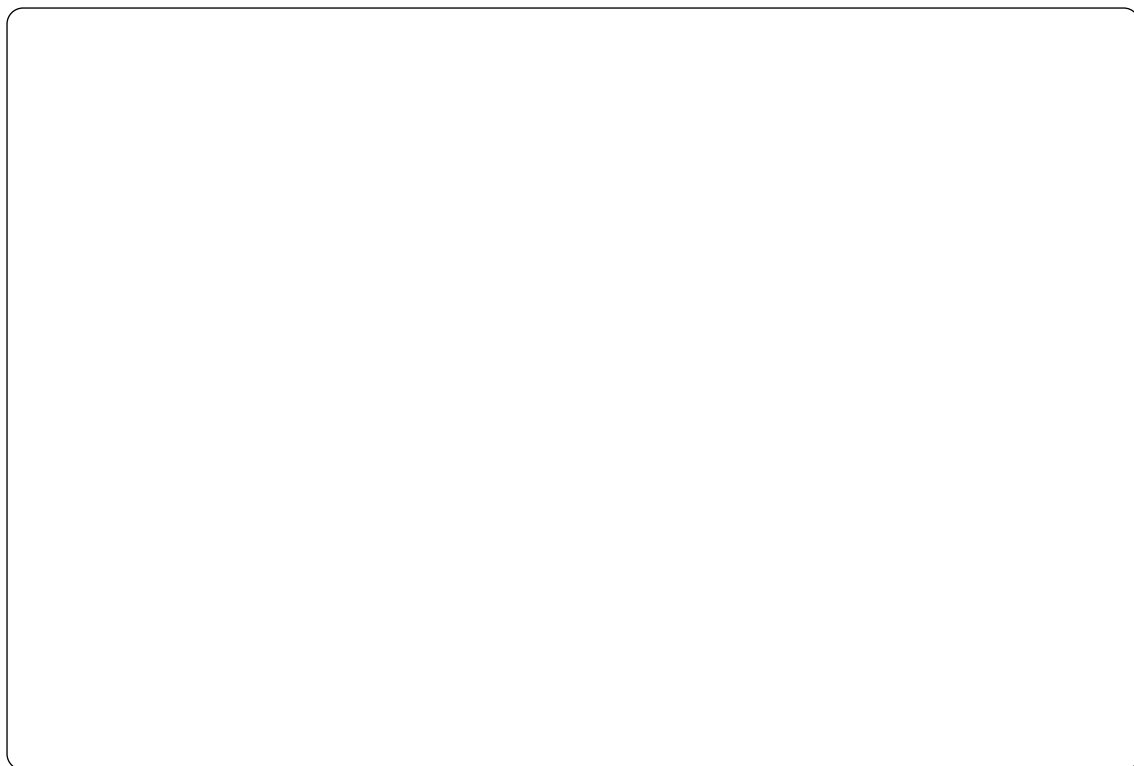
State

What is your dream for the United States and why?

What acts of service can you do to help make your dream a reality?

What do you wish leaders would do to help make your dream come true?

Draw a picture of what your dream for the nation looks like.



By submitting this form to hello@theweekjunior.com, you give *The Week Junior* consent to print it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.