Name: _____

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

by Cynthia Sherwood

Every January we celebrate the life of a great man. Martin Luther King, Jr., fought for civil rights. He believed all Americans should be treated fairly, no matter their skin color.

Dr. King was born in 1929 in Georgia. Since he was Black, he could not go to the same schools as white children. Black Americans also had to use separate restrooms, restaurants, theaters, and swimming pools in some states.

Dr. King thought this was wrong. He was a Christian minister who worked for equal rights for Black people. He helped lead peaceful protests to change those unfair laws.

It was a hard fight. Dr. King was attacked and arrested many times. But more and more Americans grew to understand that it was wrong to treat Black people differently from white people.

In 1963, Dr. King led a quarter million people in a march to Washington, D.C. While there, Dr. King gave his famous *"I Have a Dream"* speech. He spoke about his hopes for America. He said people should be judged by their hearts, not by their skin color. His efforts helped bring about new laws to create equal rights for all Americans.

The third Monday of January is a holiday to celebrate the life of Martin Luther King. We honor his courage in working to improve the lives of so many people.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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1. What did Martin Luther King believe?

   a. All Americans should be treated fairly.
   b. Black children should be able to go to the same schools as white children.
   c. People should not be judged by their skin color.
   d. All of the above

2. When do we celebrate Martin Luther King Day?

   _____

3. In the third paragraph, the author writes:

   He helped lead peaceful protests to change those unfair laws.

   What is a protest?

   a. a special type of speech
   b. a way of showing you disagree
   c. a dream about people
   d. a law that is not fair

4. Where and when was Martin Luther King born?

   _____

5. What type of article is this?

   a. fiction
   b. fantasy
   c. biography
   d. fable

LIVEWORKSHEETS