

MLK Day Mobile (Life Skills, College & Career)

Grade Range: 3-6 **Time:** 45 Minutes

Synopsis: Students are asked to think about their dreams for themselves, their world, and their community. They are given materials and asked to create a mobile using those materials after hearing a bit about MLK.

Materials:

- Template form with writing prompts
- Writing utensils
- Yarn
- Blue construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Hole punch
- MLK Day one-page overview to read at the start of the lesson

Instructions:

1. Students will complete this work at their desks
2. Students will fill out the writing prompts
3. Adopters will pass out one sheet of blue paper, one glue stick, one pair of scissors and 3 pieces of yarn to each child
4. After students complete their prompts, they will cut them into cloud shapes to paste onto their blue paper, also cut into a cloud shape. (Some students may need assistance with this)

5. After their cloud shapes are cut, they will create a header cloud (“My Dreams”); Their dream clouds will be attached via yarn to their header cloud creating a mobile!
6. Adopters can go around and punch holes – one into the bottom of the header cloud and one into the tops of each of their three dream clouds.
7. Students can attach their dream clouds to their header clouds using the yarn provided. Ta-da! Mobile!

Talking Points: How can we work to make our dreams come true? How did MLK work to make our world a better place? How can we do the same?

Name:

**I HAVE A
DREAM**



My Dream For My Community:



My Dream For Myself:



My Dream For My World:

MLK FACTS (Ducksters.com)

- **Occupation:** Civil Rights Leader
- **Born:** January 15, 1929 in Atlanta, GA
- **Died:** April 4, 1968 in Memphis, TN
- **Best known for:** Advancing the Civil Rights Movement and his "I Have a Dream" speech

Biography:

Martin Luther King, Jr. was a civil rights activist in the 1950s and 1960s. He led non-violent protests to fight for the rights of all people including African Americans. He hoped that America and the world could become a colorblind society where race would not impact a person's civil rights. He is considered one of the great orators of modern times, and his speeches still inspire many to this day.

Where did Martin grow up?

Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in Atlanta, GA on January 15, 1929. He went to Booker T. Washington High School. He was so smart that he skipped two grades in high school. He started his college education at Morehouse College at the young age of fifteen. After getting his degree in sociology from Morehouse, Martin got a divinity degree from Crozer Seminary and then got his doctor's degree in theology from Boston University.

Martin's dad was a preacher which inspired Martin to pursue the ministry. He had a younger brother and an older sister. In 1953 he married Coretta Scott. Later, they would have four children including Yolanda, Martin, Dexter, and Bernice.

How did he get involved in civil rights?

In his first major civil rights action, Martin Luther King, Jr. led the Montgomery Bus Boycott. This started when [Rosa Parks](#) refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man. She was arrested and spent the night in jail. As a result, Martin helped to organize a boycott of the public transportation system in Montgomery. The boycott lasted for over a year. It was very tense at times. Martin was arrested and his house was bombed. In the end, however, Martin prevailed and segregation on the Montgomery buses came to an end.

When did King give his famous "I Have a Dream" speech?

In 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr. helped to organize the famous "March on Washington". Over 250,000 people attended this march in an effort to show the importance of civil rights legislation. Some of the issues the march hoped to accomplish included an end to segregation in public schools, protection from

police abuse, and to get laws passed that would prevent discrimination in employment.

It was at this march where Martin gave his "I Have a Dream" speech. This speech has become one of the most famous speeches in history. The March on Washington was a great success. The Civil Rights Act was passed a year later in 1964.

How did he die?

Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968 in Memphis, TN. While standing on the balcony of his hotel, he was shot by James Earl Ray.

Interesting Facts about Martin Luther King, Jr.

- King was the youngest person to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a national holiday.
- At the Atlanta premier of the movie *Gone with the Wind*, Martin sang with his church choir.
- There are over 730 streets in the United States named after Martin Luther King, Jr.
- One of his main influences was [Mohandas Gandhi](#) who taught people to protest in a non-violent manner.
- He was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.
- The name on his original birth certificate is Michael King. This was a mistake, however. He was supposed to be named after his father who was named for Martin Luther, the leader of the Christian reformation movement.
- He is often referred to by his initials MLK.