

TIGER TIMES



Thomas Jefferson Elementary School

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Martin Luther King Jr. **By Matthew Chirinian**

Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta Georgia. He was an activist who played a vital role in the American Civil Rights movement, until his assassination in 1968. He was the youngest man to receive a Nobel Peace Prize. Dr. King fought to end laws that were unfair towards African-Americans and advocated for equal rights for all Americans. In addition, he was known for many inspirational quotes like, "We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope." Martin Luther King Jr. was known for his "I Have A Dream" speech, leading the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and being a revolutionary player in the civil rights movement.

First and foremost, Martin Luther King Jr was famous for delivering his "I Have A Dream" speech in 1963, in which he spoke about segregation devastating America. He also discussed the American Brotherhood. One of the most famous quotes from his speech was, "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." He gave the speech in front of two hundred thousand people at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. The speech was 17 minutes long and was written in New York. After the speech, Dr. King changed many segregation laws and had a positive impact on the minds of many Americans.

Martin Luther King was the leader of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. It was a protest during which African Americans refused to ride buses in Montgomery, Alabama. It started with a woman named Rosa Parks. She refused to give up her bus seat to a white man. Later, she got heavily fined and served time in prison for her actions. During the protest, bus companies started losing money. And in 1956, they changed the laws which required a black person to give up their seat for a white person. Dr. King was respected for promoting peaceful protests rather than being violent.

Martin Luther King Jr. was revolutionary. He changed many segregation laws and the way people think about African-Americans. He inspired millions of people around the world to be leaders, to speak up, and to be peaceful.

Martin Luther King Jr. played a key role in American Civil Rights. He fought to end many segregation laws and advocated for fairness and equality. Dr. King was peaceful, fair, and a kind soul. He continues to be an inspiration for many around the world and his legacy lives fifty years later.

I Have a Dream **By Nane Galstyan**

If I am right, everyone's favorite speech is Martin Luther King Jr's. "I Have a Dream" speech. The speech was delivered on August 28, 1963, during the March on Washington. A call for equality and freedom, it became one of the defining moments of the civil rights movement and one of the most iconic speeches in American history. He began with a reference to the Emancipation Proclamation, which declared millions of slaves free in 1863. Dr. King said, "One hundred years later, the Negro is still not free." Towards the end of the speech, Dr. King departed text for a partly improvised peroration on the theme, "I have a dream," prompted by Mahalia Jackson's cry, "Tell them about the dream Martin!" In this part of the speech, which most excited the listeners and has now become the most famous speech, Dr. King described his dream of equality arising from a land of slavery and hatred. Jon Mecham wrote that with a single phrase, King joined Jefferson and Lincoln in the ranks of men who have shaped modern America. The speech was ranked as the top American speech of the 20th century in a 1999 poll of scholars of public addresses. The speech has also been described as having "a strong claim to be the greatest in the English language of all time." The march on Washington for jobs and freedom was partly intended to demonstrate mass support for the civil rights legislation proposed by President John F. Kennedy. Martin Luther King and other leaders agreed to keep their speeches calm to avoid provoking civil disobedience, which had become the hallmark of the civil rights movement. Dr. King originally designed his speech as a homage to Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, a time to correspond with the centennial of the Emancipation Proclamation.

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Back from Winter Break

Writing by Emili Shaginian, but since all authors go by a picked name, I'll go with Kaden Esmæ :)

By Kaden Esmæ

And we're back at school! Are you excited?! Are you ready?! Did your winter vacation go by quickly, fantastically and coolly? Well I hope so! I also hope you didn't spend your vacation sitting or laying on the couch, watching TV series, movies, Animes, or cartoons all day. But if you did, what can I say? Your choice, good for you!

Anyway, let's get on with the poem...

You are the best,
No matter what anyone says,
Always believe in, "you can, you will, you did"

To achieve something,
You must work hard,
And believe in yourself,
Yet don't ever let down your guard.

Shine brighter than the sun,
Show everyone what you're capable of,
Don't stand back and stare,
Being "normal" isn't always fun.
You can be weird or strange,
But that's even more fun.
Though I don't think your mom
Would let you come to school
With a messy bun...



Now That Christmas is Over...

By Eliza Galstyan *aka Luna Paluna*

Hello! Hello! Hello! Hello! Kids are back to school from a 3-week vacation. Are you excited? Are you ready? Hope so. I hope you had a lot of fun. I hope you didn't sleep all day long. Anyway, let's get to the story.

A lot of people are wondering about what Santa Claus does after Christmas? Well, a lot of people say, he goes to hibernation. But this is what I really think Santa does after Christmas.

After Santa comes back tired from spreading joy throughout the world, he is ready for Mrs. Claus' magic potion that will turn him into a regular person, just like us. Mrs. Claus also drinks the potion and shares it with the elves, which turn them into their children, while the reindeers turn into their pets after they drink the potion.

Then they go out into the world and live like a normal family. Of course, Santa Claus still helps with his magic powers. He helps people in stores, outside on the streets, and everywhere else he can do his good deeds.

You all may want to ask where Santa goes? He travels to a different country each week. That way, he gets to check on all the children around the world. And he always checks his list of who is naughty or nice.



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The Bear that Woke Up Early By Melanie Shahverdian

At this point, I think almost everyone knows that bears hibernate. Bears start their hibernation in mid-November to December. Then they usually wake up in mid-March to April. But this is a story about a mistaken bear.

This bear was the polar bear, the strongest of all bears. Now she went to hibernation a little early... a few days early. That doesn't sound like much right? That's when you're wrong! November, 13, 2021, was the day she went into hibernation. All the other bears were confused why she went a few days early. You might think this was fine and nothing would change, right? Again, that's when you're wrong! This caused massive fights against other polar bears. Intense ones too! These fights lasted for about 2-4 hours. Finally, November, 15, 2021, came and all the other polar bears went into hibernation.

Months went by... and then it was April... April 13, 2022 to be exact. That's when the polar bear that went to sleep early, woke up. When she woke up, she was the only one there! Now let me stop you right there. If you're thinking that's this is fine, you are mistaken because it's not. She thought that her group had traveled somewhere else and left her behind. Since she was a morning person or as should I say bear, she went exploring out of their den area, looking for the other polar bears. She could not find them! She was scared, worried, and sad. A few days later, she gave up. She went back to their den place and to her surprise, saw all the other polar bears. It was April, 15, 2022, which was the day all the other polar bears woke up from hibernation. I guess we can all say that this polar bear learned one important lesson. And that is, it's ok to sleep late once in a while.

M.L.K By Shadiq Iqbal

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a civil rights activist and was a leader in the **Civil Rights Movement** from 1955 until his assassination in 1968. He succeeded in ending **segregation** through **nonviolent protests** inspired by his religious beliefs and by the pacifist activism of Mahatma Gandhi.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was born in 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia. He had two siblings, Christine King Farris, and A. D. King. At Dr. King's childhood home, he and his two siblings would read the bible out loud. After dinners, he would call his grandmother, whom he ardently called "Mama," to tell them tales from the bible.

Dr. King became friends with a white boy, whose father established a business across the street. When they were about 6 years old, they had to go to separate schools due to the color of their skin. Afterward, the white boy's parents stopped him from playing with Dr. King, telling Dr. King, "We are white, and you are colored." This was the first time Dr. King experienced **segregation**. He told this to his father, who then explained to him the history of the United States.

Dr. King had joined and led marches to end this **injustice**. He led marches for colored people's right to vote, desegregation, labor rights, and civil rights. He was **discriminated** against by many segregationists.

Martin Luther King led the **Montgomery Bus Boycott** in 1955. After the boycott, Dr. King was announced as the first president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Since Dr. King was president of the SCLC, he had his share of unsuccessful marches, including the Albany Movement in Albany, Georgia. He also arranged some **nonviolent protests** in Birmingham, Alabama. Martin Luther King arranged the 1963 March on Washington, where he delivered his famous "**I Have a Dream**" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. When he gave his "**I Have a Dream**" speech, this sentence was the most important, "**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.**" Dr. King won the Nobel Peace in October 14, 1964, for tackling racial prejudice and racial inequality through nonviolent marches and protests.

Martin Luther King was assassinated in 1968, at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee. James Earl Ray assassinated him with a gun. Many riots followed after by his death.

We celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day in honor of the change that Dr. King has done. Martin Luther King revolutionized the world and inspired lots of people.

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Chinese New Year By Silvi Galstyan

The Chinese New Year, also called Lunar New Year, is celebrated between January 21 and February 20. It is called Lunar New Year too because the dates of the celebration are following the phases of the moon. This celebration is a 15-day event in many of the countries that celebrate Lunar New Year. This year, Chinese New Year occurs on Tuesday, February 1. Since the mid-1990s, the people who work in China get seven days off work during the festival.

According to legend, there is a beast named Nian, which means year. It lives beneath the sea or in the mountains. Nian is a kind of monstrous creature that has a mixture of ox, unicorn, and a lion's face. Legend says that every new year, Nian comes out and eats the villagers of China. The monster is scared of bright lights, the color red, and loud noises, so the villagers use objects like firecrackers to scare it away. Firecrackers are originally used to scare away evil spirits. The Chinese villagers also wear red clothes.

In addition, many traditions of the season remember and honor relatives who have died. In one of the Chinese New Year traditions, people clean their homes before the celebration to get rid of lingering bad luck before the new year comes. Some people cook special foods on certain days.

The last event of the Lunar New Year is called the Lantern Festival. On this event, people hang lanterns in temples or carry them during a nighttime parade. Since the dragon is a Chinese symbol of good fortune, a dragon highlights festival celebrations in many areas. This process involves a long, colorful dragon being carried through the streets by many beautiful dancers.

I Have A Dream By Albert Hayrapetyan, *guest writer*

Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. He lived with his parents. He had an older sister and a younger brother. In his city, the rules were different. In his city, black people were not allowed to talk with white people. White and black kids cannot go to the same school or be in the same classroom. There were so many rules that weren't fair for the black people. When Martin was eight, he worked as a newspaper boy. He was very good at his job. Martin used the money he earned to buy books. He read about people who fought racism. Racism is the idea that people who are of different color are not equal. Martin thought that all people were equal. He saved the books that he bought. When he was 14, Martin Luther King Jr. wrote a speech about the unfair treatment of black people. He rode a bus for 90 miles with his teacher to a speech contest, where he won. On the ride back home, he and his teacher were forced to stand in the back of the bus. This made him more determined to change the injustices of segregation. A couple of years later, a woman got arrested because she was sitting in the front of the bus. Martin knew about that and did not like it at all. And he wasn't the only one who knew about it. The entire city knew. The people did not like it and they started fighting racism. Martin was thinking that one day he would be the same as everybody else. And so he wanted to fight racism too. Martin became a minister like his father. Martin gave speeches and talked about equality. He traveled to speak to church groups and to large crowds. He spoke to a crowd of 250,000 people in Washington, D. C. He spoke about his dream for the future. "I have a dream," Martin said. Martin's speech was called "I Have a Dream." Here is a little part of his speech. "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." Martin Luther King helped the entire world give freedom to black people.

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Martin Luther King Jr.

By Ryan Issaghlian

Martin Luther King Jr. was an American Baptist minister and activist who became the most visible spokesman and leader in the American civil rights movement from 1955 until his assassination in 1968. He was born on Jan. 15 1929 in Atlanta GA. Martin Luther King, Jr. is known for his contributions to the American civil rights movement in the 1960s. His most famous work is his "I Have a Dream" speech, delivered in 1963, in which he spoke of his dream of a United States that is void of segregation and racism, which he did nonviolently. He thought racism was unjust. And he was right!

Dr. King entered college at the age of 15. He was such a gifted student that he skipped grades nine and 12. He enrolled at Morehouse College in 1944, the alma mater of his father and maternal grandfather. Although he was the son, grandson and great-grandson of Baptist ministers, he did not intend to follow the family vocation until Morehouse president Benjamin E. Mays, a noted theologian, convinced him otherwise. Dr. King was ordained before graduating college with a degree in sociology.

On September 20, 1958, Martin Luther King Jr. was in Harlem signing copies of his new book, *Stride Toward Freedom*, in Blumstein's department store, when he was approached by Izola Ware Curry. The woman asked if he was Martin Luther King Jr. After he said yes, Curry said, "I've been looking for you for five years," and she plunged a seven-inch letter opener into his chest. The tip of the blade came to rest alongside his aorta. He underwent hours of delicate emergency surgery. Surgeons later told him that just one sneeze could have punctured the aorta and killed him. From his hospital bed where he recovered for weeks, King issued a statement affirming his nonviolent principles, saying he felt no ill will toward his mentally-ill attacker.

Martin Luther King Jr. was imprisoned nearly 30 times. According to the King Center, the civil rights leader went to jail 29 times. He was arrested for acts of civil disobedience and on trumped-up charges, such as when he was jailed in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1956 for driving 30 miles per hour in a 25-mile-per-hour zone.

The Montgomery Bus Boycott was a civil rights protest during which African-Americans refused to ride city buses in Montgomery, Alabama, to protest segregated seating. The boycott took place from December 5, 1955 to December 20, 1956. It is regarded as the first large-scale U.S. demonstration against segregation. At age 14 he wrote a speech about unfair treatment of Black people. He also rode a bus 90 miles with his teacher to a speech contest where he won. When he was returning home, he and his teacher were forced to stand in the back of the bus. This made him more determined to change the injustices of segregation. At age 15 he spent his summer in the northern state of Connecticut where he experienced what it was like to be free of racial prejudice.

Martin Luther King JR, was someone who changed the world with nonviolent means. He impressed all of us and saved all of us from racism and segregation.

Make it Happen

By Luna Paluna

I just want to let you know about something that's very important. Follow your dreams and the universe will open doors for you, where there were once only walls. Hold on to your dreams and don't let go until you achieve them. Work hard and don't ever look back. Don't worry about what people tell you. Make your dream a reality by working hard, believing in yourself, and knowing that you can achieve anything that you can dream of.

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The Monkeys in Space By Ryan Issaghlian

One day 2 monkeys named Lea and George were out and about and found themselves in a space house. It was the year 3021 and they had made space ships that were like homes with gravity in them. They stumbled upon one that was open. They decided to run in. They went inside and George accidentally pressed a button. And sure enough, they were taking off. "What have you done?!" said Lea, and just like that, they were in space.

"How are we going to get out of here?" said Lea. George and Lea were both frustrated. They needed to find a way out of space. George started to try and examine the buttons on the control panel. He saw a button that said light speed. He pressed it and they were heading to Mars. They arrived and were shocked to find aliens there. The two monkeys sadly lacked oxygen and passed out.

The aliens noticed the ship and went to take a look. About 16 of them entered. They saw the buttons and pressed every single one of them. Somehow, they ended up on a rocket landing pad in California. They exited the ship. The human race was left in shock! And soon, the aliens took over the world!

Chinese New Year By Nare Aghanian

Chinese New Year can be a big deal for some families. Chinese New Year is a happy and festive time. It is the most important event in China and some other East Asian countries. It is the time when some people celebrate the beginning of the new year on the traditional lunisolar calendar. Each year, a different animal is linked to Chinese New Year. Dragon and lion dances are one of the most popular things to do during the Chinese New Year.

Chinese New Year ends with the Lantern Festival each year. Most people celebrate this event with their families. It is also considered a time of forgiveness.

Finn's Adventure in the Land of Lapis Lazuli By Samuel Johnson

Once upon a time, there was a boy named Finn Snail. He lived in the land of Lapis Lazuli. It was made of pure gemstones. Finn came running home with something yellow in his hand. When he got home, the thing in his hand turned out to be some kind of cheese. He ate it and somehow, a spider came out of nowhere. Finn yelled, "What are you?!" The spider said, "I'm an arachnid." Then Finn said, "What is an arachnid? Never mind you must be the last of your kind after the Arachno War." The spider replied, "Yup. The Evil Fire Princess. Man, I miss my family. But we can help each other."

To be continued...

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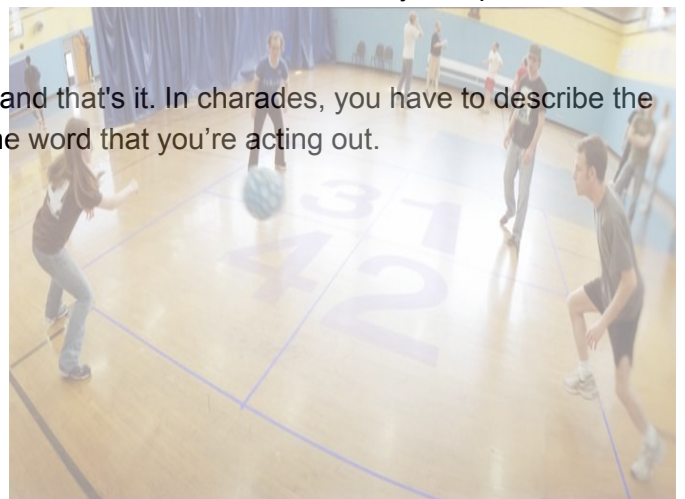
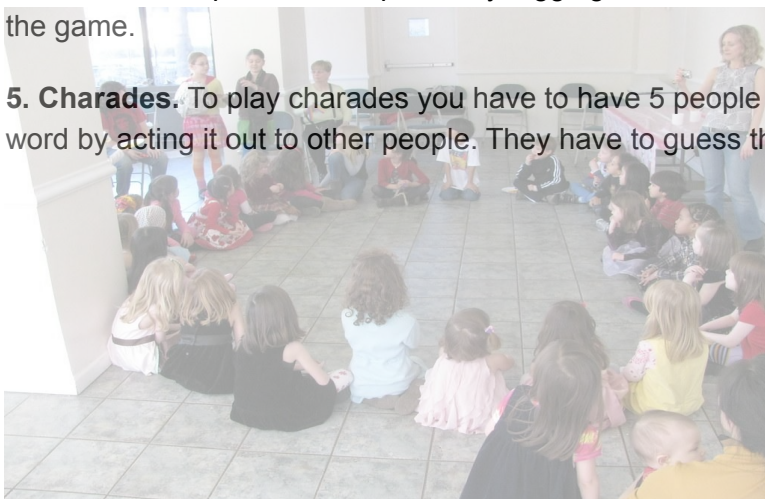
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Fun Games to Play at Recess

By Areg Hakhverdian

Here are some fun games to play during recess.

- 1. Four Square.** Four Square is a game requiring a square divided into 4 equal parts, a jelly ball and four people. Each person stands on each corner of the square. The object of the game is to get people out by making the ball bounce on their squares. You spike the ball on the ground to pass it. You can get eliminated by being the last one to touch the ball before it goes out or getting the ball bounced on your square before going out.
- 2. Twenty-one.** Twenty-one is a game where you call up a number with a partner in 3's and the person who says twenty-one loses the game. For example, if you say 3 to begin the game, your opponent can either say 4,5 or 6.
- 3. Knockout.** Knockout is a game needing at least 5 players, 2 basketballs, and a basketball hoop. You make a line at the free throw line. The first two players come up to the free throw line. They shoot the ball. The first player who makes the shot stays on the game. The player who misses the shot is out. This goes on until 2 players are left. One of them has to make two shots to win the game. You can modify the game by having players who are out rebound airballs to get back to the game. Or you can also tell other players to come back to the game.
- 4. Hot Potato.** This is a game where you set a timer to 20-60 seconds. Players pass the hot potato (ball) to each other while the timer is running. The person who has the hot potato last when the timer goes off is eliminated. You pass the hot potato by tagging someone else. You do this until there is only one person left in the game.
- 5. Charades.** To play charades you have to have 5 people and that's it. In charades, you have to describe the word by acting it out to other people. They have to guess the word that you're acting out.



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A Man of Peace

By **Adrianna Nolasco** *guest writer*

Martin Luther King was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on January 15, 1929. In the South where he lived, segregation was legal. This meant that black people had to use separate drinking fountains, parks, schools, as well as sitting in the back of buses. At the age of six, Martin was told that he could no longer play with his best friend just because he was black.

At the age of 14, he wrote a speech about the unfair treatment of black people. He rode a bus 90 miles with his teacher to a speech contest where he won. On the way home, he and his teacher were forced to stand in the back of the bus. This made him more determined to change the injustices of segregation.

Martin was an excellent student. He skipped two grades and began college at age of 15. He was a top student in college and received a doctorate degree.

Martin Luther King organized and led many marches to promote voting rights for blacks because he wanted to change this injustice. In 1955, he organized the Montgomery Alabama Bus Boycott. This came right after Rosa Parks was arrested for not giving up her seat on the bus to a white person. MLK led marches and gave speeches about civil rights. He was always acting peacefully. He was arrested many times.

On August 28, 1963 in Washington DC, before a crowd of 250,000 people, he gave his "I Have A Dream" speech. "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."

In 1964, President Johnson signed the Civil Rights Bill into law, which made all the laws more fair. In December 1964, Dr. King won the Nobel Peace Prize. On April 4, 1968, he was sadly assassinated. Everyone was upset that he had passed. On the 3rd Monday of January each year, we have a national holiday in his honor.

