

Name _____



Dr. King's Life And Legacy

Directions: Read the passage below about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Then answer the questions that follow. Think carefully about the main idea, important details, and what you can infer about his character and legacy.

Martin Luther King Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1929. From a young age, he saw unfairness in how people of color were treated in his community. He grew up hearing his father preach about justice and learned that standing up for what is right sometimes requires courage and sacrifice. As he got older, Dr. King studied hard, becoming a pastor and a leader who inspired others to seek change through peace instead of anger.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the Civil Rights Movement gained strength under Dr. King's leadership. He believed that peaceful protest was the most powerful way to fight for equality. Through marches, speeches, and boycotts, he showed the world that change could come through unity and love. One of his most famous moments came in 1963, when he gave his "I Have a Dream" speech in Washington, D.C., describing a world where people are judged not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

Dr. King's dream was not just about ending segregation-it was about creating a society where fairness and kindness replaced hate. His bravery inspired millions, and even though he lost his life in 1968, his message continues to guide people who work for peace and equality today.

Comprehension Questions:

1. What is the main idea of this passage?
2. What was one key belief that guided Dr. King's actions?
3. Why did Dr. King think nonviolence was the best approach to change?
4. What can you infer about Dr. King's character from the passage?
5. How does Dr. King's "dream" still apply to the world today?