



Honoring the Spirit of America

www.museumofpatriotism.org

“I Have a Dream”

Grades K-2

Objective: The student will identify the purpose of national holidays and describe the person celebrated on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The student will identify with King’s “I Have a Dream” speech by creating his or her own dream speech.

This objective covers GPS requirement **SSKH1(e)**
(For teachers outside the state of Georgia, check your local or state education curriculum to see what requirements this lesson plan may satisfy.)

Materials:

- A copy, or audio, of the “I Have a Dream” speech
 - A transcript of the speech may be found at:
<http://www.usconstitution.net/dream.html>
- Drawing paper
- Pencils
- Crayons

Procedure:

1. Introduce students to Martin Luther King, Jr. by sharing a short summary about his life and all the accomplishments he achieved in his lifetime (and after). (The website listed above also contains a brief summary about Martin Luther King, Jr.)
2. Explain to students that as a result of all the wonderful things King did, we have a national holiday to celebrate King and his life. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a time to reflect about the changes in society that King helped bring about. It is a day to remember King and how he strived to make his dream come true.
3. Allow students to listen to the “I Have a Dream” Speech. If needed, explain what King’s speech was about.
4. Explain to students the meaning of King’s dream, and how it differs from the dreams the students may have at night. With this definition of dream, ask students to brainstorm a dream they have.
5. Allow students to illustrate their dream on drawing paper, and then write a “speech” about it. (Obviously, the “speech” length will vary by grade level. For kindergarteners, this may be only one or two sentences about their picture.) Encourage older students to write in the form of King’s speech.

6. Allow students to share their dreams and their illustrations with the class.

Assessment:

Evaluate students their dreams and the sentences describing them.