

He had a dream...

WORKSHEET A

.....

A

This man, who became famous by fighting for justice in his country in the 1950s and 60s, was born in the city of Atlanta in the state of Georgia on 15th January 1929. He had the same name as his father, a minister in a church. He studied sociology at university, and then did a doctorate in theology. On 18th June 1953 he married Coretta Scott in the town of Marion in the state of Alabama. The couple had four children (two sons and two daughters), born between 1955 and 1963.

In the 1950s he joined the civil rights movement in the south of the country, where there had been a long history of racial discrimination. Black people wanted equal rights such as the right to vote, and the right to equal economic opportunities (most black people were poor, with a very large number living in slums or ghettos).

.....

B

Black people also wanted an end to racial segregation that existed in many parts of the South: for example black and white children often went to different schools, and blacks were not allowed to eat in the same restaurants as whites or even use the same seats on buses.

The civil rights struggle intensified in 1955, a couple of years after he had become a minister at a black church in the town of Montgomery in the southern state of Alabama.

He started to become really famous when he led the black community's boycott of buses in Montgomery. The boycott began after the police arrested a black woman, Rosa Parks, when she refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man. It lasted over a year, but the final result was very positive: the United States government made racial segregation on public transport illegal.

.....

.....

C

From 1957 onwards he encouraged black churches all over the southern United States to join the struggle for civil rights. He believed in non-violent protests, and organized a lot of peaceful marches and demonstrations. Sometimes, however, these events became violent when the police, or other groups of white people, attacked them.

In August 1963 he was one of the leaders of the 'March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom'. At the end of the march, more than a quarter of a million people attended a demonstration in the centre of the city. This was the event where he made his famous 'I have a dream' speech, saying that he wanted black and white people to live together in peace and equality.

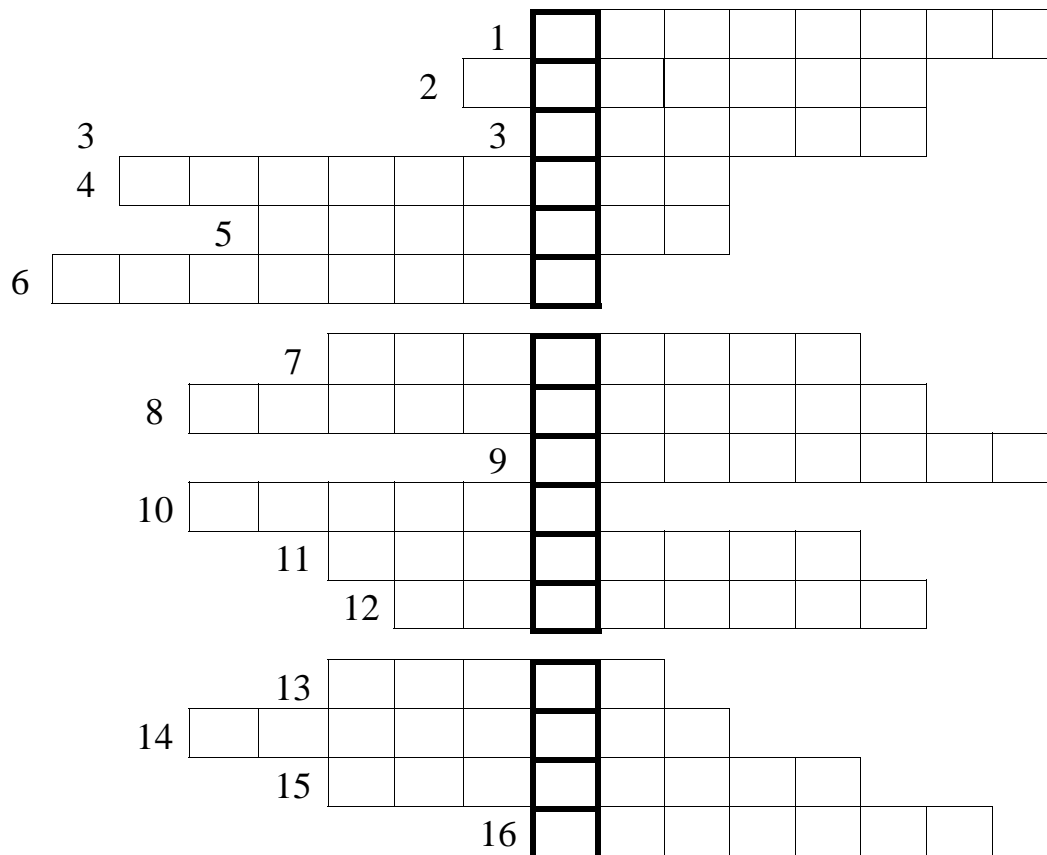
National TV covered these events, and people all over the country began to support the civil rights movement. The United States government passed two laws, in 1964 and 1965, which granted most of the movement's demands.

.....

He had a dream...

WORKSHEET B

Fill the gaps below to complete the crossword and find the name of the man described in Worksheet A.



1. His father was a _____ at a church.
2. He organized a lot of non-violent demonstrations and _____.
3. The civil rights movement wanted to end _____ segregation.
4. Many people all over the United States _____ the civil rights movement.
5. He fought for _____ in his country.
6. Montgomery is in the _____ state of Alabama.
7. He had four _____.
8. Blacks were not allowed to eat in the same _____ as whites.
9. He did a doctorate in _____.
10. He made his famous 'I have a dream' _____ in Washington in 1963.
11. More than a quarter of a million people _____ the Washington demonstration.
12. The civil rights _____ intensified in 1955.
13. Rosa _____ refused to give up her bus seat to a white man.
14. He wanted black and white people to live together in _____.
15. Most black people in the South were poor, and they wanted equal _____ opportunities.
16. In the mid-1960s the United States government passed two laws that _____ most of the demands of the civil rights movement.

He had a dream...

WORKSHEET C

'Nineteen sixty-three is not an end, but a **(1) justice** ... There are those who are **(2) asking** ... 'When will you be satisfied?' We can never be satisfied as long as a Negro in Mississippi cannot **(3) slums** and a Negro in New York believes he has nothing for which to vote. No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied **(4) until** justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream....

Go back to Mississippi, go back to Alabama, go back to Georgia, go back to Louisiana, go back to the **(5) vote** and **(6) ghettos** of our northern cities, knowing that somehow this **(7) still** can and will be changed ... I say to you today, my friends, that in spite of the situation and frustrations of the moment, I **(8) situation** have a dream...

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave-owners will be able to sit down **(9) together** at a table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a desert state ... will be ... an oasis of freedom and **(10) beginning**. I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their **(11) character** but by the content of their **(12) skin**. I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day ... little black boys and black girls will be able to join **(13) hands** with little white boys and white girls and walk together as **(14) struggle** and brothers. I have a dream today.

With this **(15) faith** we will be able to work together, to pray together, to **(16) sisters** together ... knowing that we will be free one day.

When we let **(17) sing** ring ... all of God's **(18) children**, black men and white men ... will be able to join hands and **(19) freedom**... 'Free at last! Free at last! Thank **(20) God** ... we are free at last!'

Martin Luther King, Washington DC, 28th August 1963