

**Bringing Us Together – MLK Day Tribute and Service Project****1. Welcome and introductions****2. MLK Bio – use this info or Scholastic pamphlet: Before and After Dr. King.**

January 15, 1929 - April 4, 1968

Martin Luther King Jr. **an important man who worked for equal rights for all.** He was famous for using nonviolent resistance (**saying no, peacefully**) to overcome injustice (**unfairness**), and he never got tired of trying to end segregation laws (laws that prevented certain people from entering certain places, such as restaurants, hotels, and public schools). **He also did all he could to make people realize that "all men are created equal."** Because of his great work, in 1964 King received the **Nobel Peace Prize** -- the youngest person ever to receive this high honor. King was also a Baptist **minister**. He died when he was just 39 years old. **His birthday is now observed as a national holiday** on the third Monday in January.

[http://www.americaslibrary.gov/aa/king/aa\\_king\\_subj.html](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/aa/king/aa_king_subj.html)

**3. Themes:** Peace, service (doing things for other people), fairness, equality (we are all people), giving, sharing, common (being) good.

**4. Service Experience:**

**Goal: Create a classroom picture book of what students can do for the common good.**

**Service Experience:** Students share a class book with another class. Their goal is to spread the message that working for the common good binds the students together and extends the good work of Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Set up:** Ask the students, "**What holds a book together?**" Show students different ways that books are held together. Tell the students that during this lesson **we will be making and binding a book**. Show an example of how you will be putting together their classroom book for this lesson. Ask the students **why books must be held together. Just like a book, all our separate parts can be put together into a strong unit by working together** for the common good. Tell the students **that in this lesson we are going to talk about actions that bring us together**. We will **put these ideas together in a book**, and **share the ideas with another class**.  
Revisit themes.

**4a. Coloring activity:**

Choose: **MLK, Rainbow, or Dove**

Pick a word or idea to draw on one of the pages, draw them and put them together as a book.

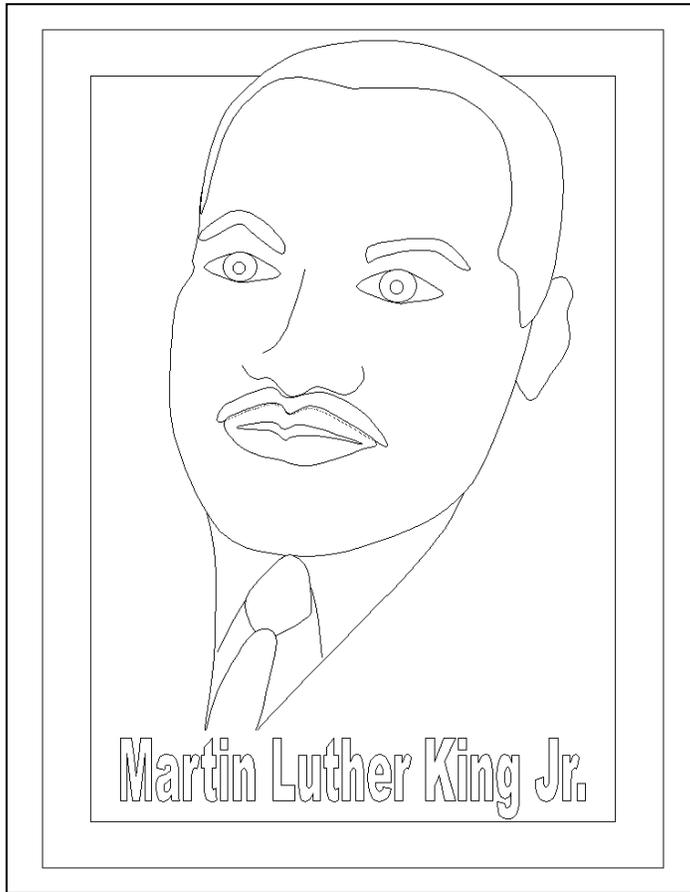
**OPTIONAL (if we have time)**

Tell the students that **Dr. King** did not live a very long life and he **didn't get to finish the work of his dream: to bring people together**. Ask students to **think of ways they personally can continue the work of Dr. King** (e.g. helping a neighbor, inviting a new student to play, playing fairly, speak up when they see unfair treatment such as bullying, cleaning up shared spaces, etc.). List the ideas on the board.

Source for much of this lesson: <http://www.learningtogive.org/lessons/unit192/lesson4.html>

Finish with: Of Thee I Sing, a Letter to my Daughters, by Barack Obama

Materials:



<http://www.dltk-kids.com/t/bhm/bpostermlk.htm>

Rainbow coloring page: [http://www.first-school.ws/t/alpha3\\_rainbow\\_b.htm](http://www.first-school.ws/t/alpha3_rainbow_b.htm)

Dove coloring page: [http://www.first-school.ws/t/alphabet/coloring-pages/bible\\_zb/dove\\_b.htm](http://www.first-school.ws/t/alphabet/coloring-pages/bible_zb/dove_b.htm)

K-2 MLK Book: <http://bookwizard.scholastic.com/tbw/viewWorkDetail.do?workId=1168957&>

Before and After Dr. King: <http://www.onlinedigitalpubs.com/publication/?i=54312> (at: [www.scholastic.com/lfo](http://www.scholastic.com/lfo))

Of Thee I Sing, a Letter to my Daughters, by Barack Obama, illustrated by Loren Long, Alfred A. Knopf, New York.