King's



In the United States, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is honored each year in January for his work toward equality for all people. But this year, we'll also commemmorate a sad anniversary.

Dr. King was assassinated, or murdered, on April 4, 1968 — 50 years ago next week. This week, The Mini Page learns more about that tragic day and how Dr. King's nonviolent approach to change has lived on.

Martin's life

King was born on Jan. 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. He had an older sister, Christine, and a younger brother, A.D. He was named after his father, Michael King Sr.

When Dr. King was a little boy, his father changed his own name and his son's to Martin Luther King Sr. and Jr. The boy was called M.L. by family members and friends. Martin was smart,



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1964.

and he thought a lot about how to improve things for African-Americans as he was growing up. Like his father, he became a pastor.

In the 1950s and '60s, black people were joining in the fight for their civil, or citizens', rights. Dr. King started the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to help organize and support protests against discrimination, or

Mini Quote:

"We are saying that we are determined to be men. We are determined to be people."

unfairness. He wanted the protests to be peaceful, but that was not always possible.

His famous speech

In 1963, Dr. King organized a March on Washington. He delivered a moving speech, known as the "I Have a Dream" speech, to the crowd. Along with 250,000 marchers, he hoped to convince Congress to pass President John F. Kennedy's civil rights



on Washington.

bill, which made discrimination illegal. The next year, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Dr. King's death

The famously nonviolent civil rights worker was in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1968, to support a strike, or work stoppage, by African-American garbage workers. On the evening of April

4, Dr. King was standing on a balcony at the Lorraine Motel when he was shot by James Earl Ray. Ray was convicted of killing Dr. King and died in prison in 1998.



The Lorraine Motel in Memphis is now the site of the National Civil Rights Museum.

The work continues

After he died, Dr. King's influence did not end. On April 11, President Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1968, which promised fair housing for all people, no matter their race, religion, color or nationality. He also sent officials to Memphis to settle the garbage workers' strike.

The King Center

Before 1968 ended, Dr. King's widow, Coretta Scott King, had started the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta. Mrs. King said: "We need ... to develop new and flexible strategies based upon the bedrock of Dr. King's philosophies."

Dr. King's ideas

The King Center shares his principles, or beliefs, and steps for nonviolent change:

- 1. **Information gathering**: identifying and understanding a problem.
- 2. Education: sharing the problem with others.
- 3. Personal commitment: working steadily toward a solution.
- 4. Discussion/negotiation: working with your opponent to agree to a solution.
- 5. Direct action: acting to increase pressure on your opponent when negotiating doesn't work.
- 6. Reconciliation: developing a plan of action that solves the problem for both sides.

Resources



On the Web:

• bit.ly/MPMLK

At the library:

• "Martin Luther King: The Peaceful Warrior" by Ed Clayton

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:

The Mini Page® © 2018 Andrews McMeel Syndication

ASSASSINATE, ATLANTA, CENTER, CIVIL, CONGRESS IDEAS, KING, LUTHER, MARCH, MARTIN, MEMPHIS, NONVIOLENT, PRINCIPLES, PROTEST, STRIKE, WASHINGTON.

PFSUTNELOIVNONM RVYDATLANTABKG IRASIHPMEMBVLN DISCRIMINATION, EQUAL, N A S S A S S I N A T CKNDSSERGN S C Т SETORP R T M Α RETN REHTULM EQUALWASHINGTON SWPS TRIKELSAEDI

Mini Jokes

Bailey: What makes it easy for babies to cheat on their exams? Ben: Crib notes!

Eco Note

Residents around Cape Town in South Africa have been warned that the city could run out of water as soon as July because of a long **drought**, or period of dry weather, across parts of the country. Since Feb. 1, each of the 3.7 million residents has been limited to using only 13 gallons of water per day. Reservoirs dwindled to less than 10 percent of capacity as the worst drought on record persisted during the past three years.

with this recipe.

help

adult's

an

need

You'll need:

• 1 cup butter or margarine, softened

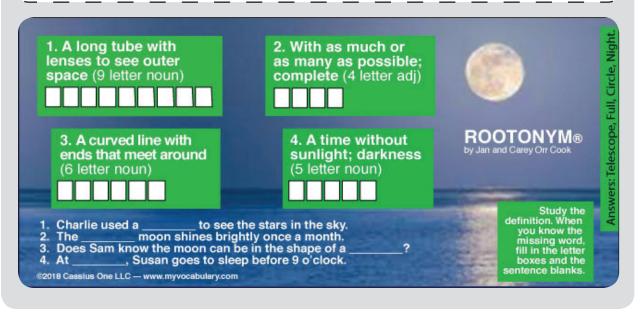
Cook's Corner

Peanut Butter Cookies

- 1 cup light brown sugar
- 1 cup white sugar
- 2 eggs, beaten • 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla • 2 tablespoons baking
- soda

3 cups all-purpose flour

- 1. Combine butter or margarine and sugars in a large bowl until smooth.
- 2. Stir in eggs and peanut butter. Mix well.
- 3. Stir in remaining ingredients. Mix well.
- 4. Place by tablespoonfuls several inches apart on a greased baking sheet. Flatten with your palm or the bottom of a glass.
- 5. Bake in a 350-degree oven for 12 to 15 minutes. Makes about 3 dozen.



For later:

Watch your newspaper for stories about the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Teachers: For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: bit.ly/MPstandards. And follow The Mini Page on Facebook!



