Martin Luther King Jr. is famous for his role in the civil rights movement. He believed that everyone should be equal. He worked hard for that. He fought against discrimination. Discrimination is when a person or group of people are treated differently.

Martin Luther King Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1929. He grew up in a time when things were not fair for everyone. He had to go to a school for African American kids. He was not allowed to eat in the same restaurants as white people. He could not even use the same bathrooms.

Beliefs and Actions

King believed that African Americans should receive the same treatment as white people. He believed that people should be treated equally, no matter what color skin they have.

He believed in peaceful protests. He did not believe that violence was the answer. He knew that it was important to stay peaceful so people would listen. Martin Luther King Jr. boycotted. He refused to buy products or services from places that did not treat him fairly. He marched. His marches made people think about discrimination.

March on Washington

In 1963, there was a civil rights march on Washington, D.C., called the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. King became very well-known after this event. King made a famous speech at this march. It is called the, “I Have A Dream” speech. 250,000 people marched and heard his speech.

In the speech, he spoke about racism. He wanted it to end. Racism is the poor treatment and violence against people because of their race. Martin Luther King Jr. talked about things being better for African American people.

Martin Luther King Jr. won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. That same year, the Civil Rights Act was passed. It banned many types of discrimination. Martin Luther King Jr. worked hard to bring change in the United States. Today, people still work for the equality he spoke about.
Nonfiction Text Features: Martin Luther King Jr.

Text features help a reader navigate the text. They give more information about the text. Examples: illustrations, photographs, captions, maps, charts, graphs, headings, table of contents

Part 1:
Directions: Answer the questions by writing complete sentences.

1. What information does the side bar show?
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________

2. Write a caption to go next to the image of Martin Luther King Jr.
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________

3. What do the headings tell the reader?
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________

Part 2:
Directions: Use the passage and sidebar to fill in the missing information on the timeline below.

1929
Martin Luther King Jr.
was born

1944

1964
Won Nobel Peace Prize

1968

Led Montgomery bus boycott

Gave “I Have a Dream” speech