



*MLK Day of Service:
"A day on, not a day off."*

Sharing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Vision with Your Children

Talk about it.

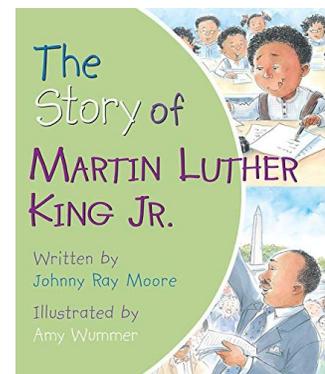
We encourage you to take a little time to talk to your child(ren) about who Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was and to explain some of his guiding philosophy. Depending on the ages of your children, you might consider using some of the following language to describe Dr. King:

- Dr. King had a big heart and he believed in fairness and equity.
- He experienced unfair treatment (discrimination/racism) as a child because of the color of his skin.
- As an adult, he helped organize members of his community and communities around the country to stand up to injustice and unfair treatment.
- Dr. King believed in the power of love and non-violent resistance.

Read about it.

Reading books about Dr. King can be a great way to start a conversation with your children about who he was and his vision. Below are a few recommendations. [Click here](#) for more.

- The Story of Martin Luther King, Jr.
by Johnny Ray Moore and Amy Wummer (ages 2-5)
- I Have a Dream
by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Kadir Nelson (ages 4-9)
- Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
by Doreen Rappaport and Bryan Collier (ages 5-9)
- Martin Luther King: The Peaceful Warrior
by Ed Clayton and Donald Bermudez (ages 8+)



Do something about it.

It can be intimidating to discuss such big topics with our kids. Don't feel that you need to have all the answers. There are many resources to help you in your journey and many ways you and your family can take action to strengthen our community and build bridges.

- Dr. King recognized the power of service. He famously said, "Everyone can be great because everybody can serve." By volunteering with Kids Impact Community, you are already embodying Dr. King's vision and sharing it with your kids!
- Engage in intentional conversations about race and ethnicity with your children.
 - As Dr. Lucretia Berry of Brownicity explains in her [Tedx talk](#) for parents (13 min. long), we harm children when we teach them not to notice race. Unintentionally or not, we're actually equipping them to perpetuate racism when we tell them not to talk about race.
- [Read](#) and [listen](#) to Erin Winkler, associate professor at UWM, share her research on talking to children about race.
- Gain confidence by accessing helpful resources for talking about skin tone, race and racism, including: [Embrace Race](#), [Raising Race Conscious Children](#), and [Brownicity](#).
- Attend events honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the [Milwaukee Public Library](#).
- As a parent and community member, participate in local events that focus on racial justice issues and advocacy, like the [Stand Against Racism campaign](#).