

Busy Teacher Resources: *I Have a Dream* . . . Special Edition: January 2003



The Meaning of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (Excerpt) **By Coretta Scott King**

<http://www.thekingcenter.com/holiday/index.asp>

The King Holiday honors the life and contributions of America's greatest champion of racial justice and equality, the leader who not only dreamed of a color-blind society, but who also led a movement that achieved historic reforms to help make it a reality.

On this day we commemorate Dr. King's great dream of a vibrant, multiracial nation united in justice, peace and reconciliation; **a nation that has a place at the table for children of every race and room at the inn for every needy child.** We are called on this holiday, not merely to honor, but to celebrate the values of equality, tolerance and interracial sister and brotherhood he so compellingly expressed in his great dream for America.

It is a day of interracial and intercultural cooperation and sharing. No other day of the year brings so many peoples from different cultural backgrounds together in such a vibrant spirit of brother and sisterhood. Whether you are African-American, Hispanic or Native American, whether you are Caucasian or Asian-American, you are part of the great dream Martin Luther King, Jr. had for America. **This is not a black holiday; it is a peoples' holiday.** And it is the young people of all races and religions who hold the keys to the fulfillment of his dream.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day **Monday, January 20, 2003**

The lesson plan resources below are designed for elementary children, including preschool and kindergarten. The general information includes his most famous speeches and inspirational quotes, audio clips, timelines, and biographical information. (From About.com)

General Information and Reference Material

<http://k-6educators.about.com/library/bldrking.htm>

Lesson Plans

<http://k-6educators.about.com/library/bldrking2.htm>