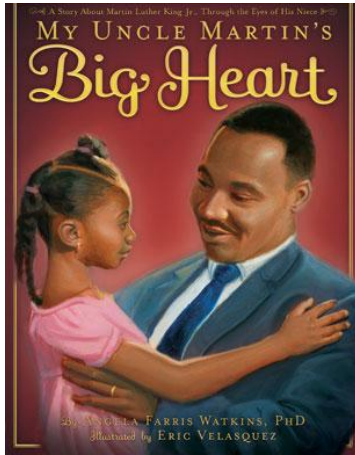


Our Principal's Book for January

My Uncle Martin's Big Heart

By Angela Farris Watkins

Illustrated by Eric Velasquez



Known for his constant struggle for equality, Martin Luther King Jr. was also a devoted family man. Written by his niece, this lovely picture book shares some special family moments and insights into the man behind the myth. This is an extremely personal look into the life of one of the most influential people in U.S. history.

Required Activities

- ✓ Discuss the book with your class connecting it to the January Character Trait, **Compassion**.
- ✓ Have students write a literary response. Submit 2 student responses from your class to the main office for display on the Principal's Book of the Month bulletin board by **Jan. 27th**.

Optional Activity:

- ❖ I HAVE A DREAM... Write on a chart some of the "dreams" that Martin Luther King expressed in his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Ask students to think about the things they dream for themselves, their families, their country, and the world, and to express those dreams in their own "I have a dream" scroll.



MORE Optional Activities:

- ❖ **Draw your dreams** - Encourage your students to make **King Crowns**. Cut out paper crowns for each child. Ask them to draw a picture of their dreams for a better world.

- ❖ **Mapping Martin Luther King Jr.**

This activity is best for students in grades 3-8. Children can participate in pairs, small groups, or individually.

With this activity, your students will discover many places in the life of the famous Dr. King. From his birth place to his famous speech to his final resting place his passion and activism made a big difference in the lives of millions of people. By mapping where he went during his life, your students will get a better feel for who he is and where he came from.

The first thing is to have the children use a variety of sources to learn about the places that Dr. King made famous. Depending on the grade level you can assist in a number of ways, including a two-column match, or possibly a fill-in worksheet. Older students can be left to their own devices.

Then, have students place a star next to the cities that were important in Dr. King's life on a large map and notate the map with the significant event.

Finally, have the children explain to you the various locations and why they are significant in the life of Dr. King.

- ❖ **Design a Postage Stamp to Honor Dr. King**

Throughout his inspiring life, Dr. King advocated for the rights of people from all walks of life. Help your students celebrate his legacy by creating a "first class" MLK stamp.

