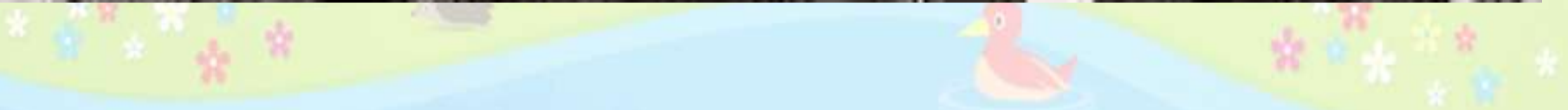
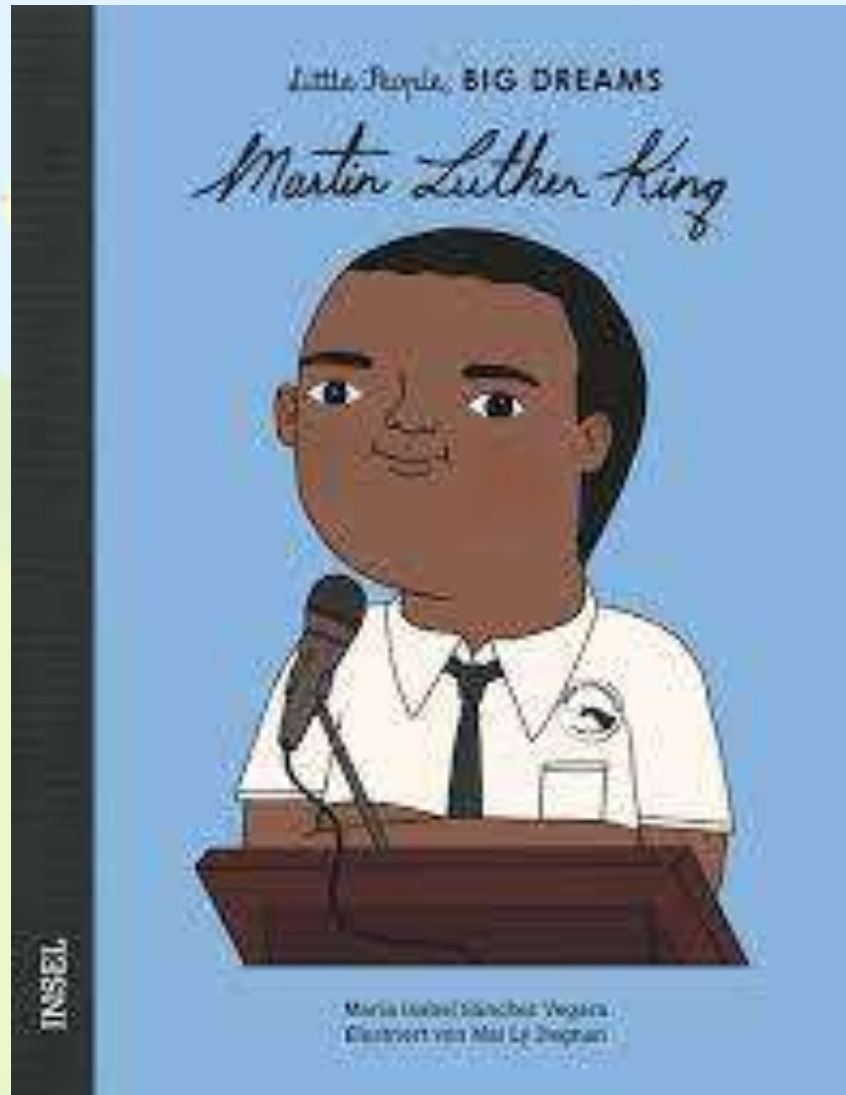


Who is this man?



Martin Luther King Jr



Little Martin was a spiritual boy from Atlanta, who came from a long line of preachers. His dad was a preacher, his uncle was a preacher, his grandfather was a preacher...
Maybe he'd become a great preacher too.



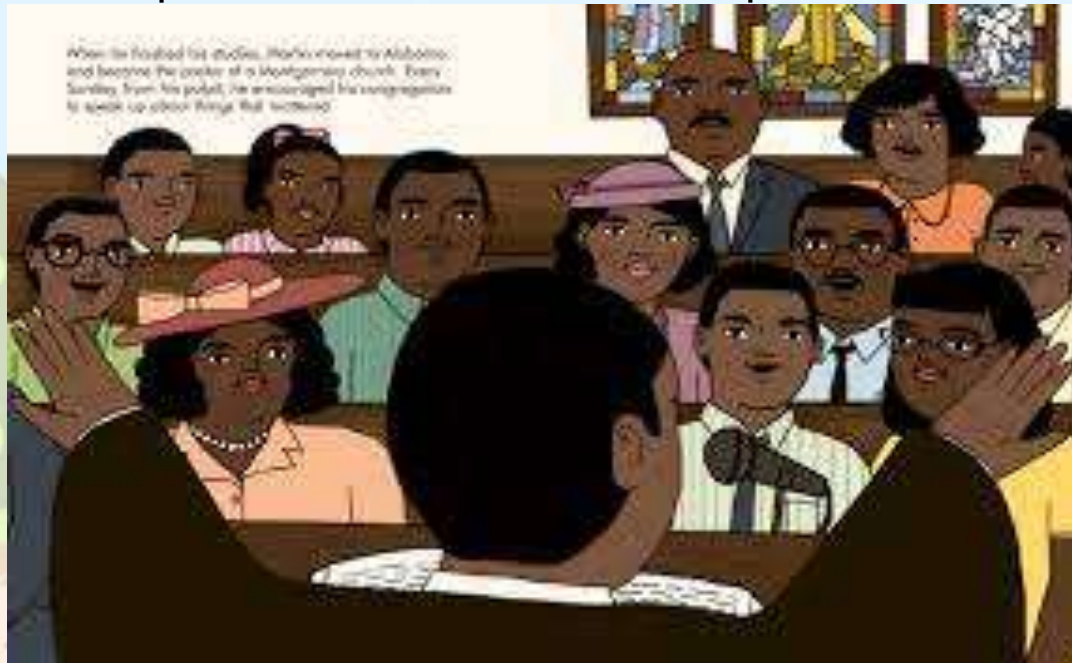
One day, a friend invited him over to play. Martin was shocked when he was asked to leave because he was black. That day he realised something terrible was going on.

This terrible thing was called **segregation**. It meant that public places, like restaurants and buses, had separate spaces for black and white people. Martin and his friend were sent to different schools.



Martin believed that he shouldn't remain silent, or accept something that is wrong. He promised himself that when he grew up he would fight for justice, with the most powerful weapon of all... His words.

Martin studied at universities in Georgia, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts where he read about Mahatma Gandhi, the man who had improved the lives of millions of Indians with peaceful methods of protest.



When he finished his studies, Martin moved to Alabama, and became a pastor of a church in Montgomery. Every Sunday, from his pulpit, he encouraged his congregation to speak up about things that mattered.

One evening, a woman called Rosa was arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a white man on a bus. Martin asked the people in his community not to take the *bus again until the law was changed...* That woman was Rosa Parks.



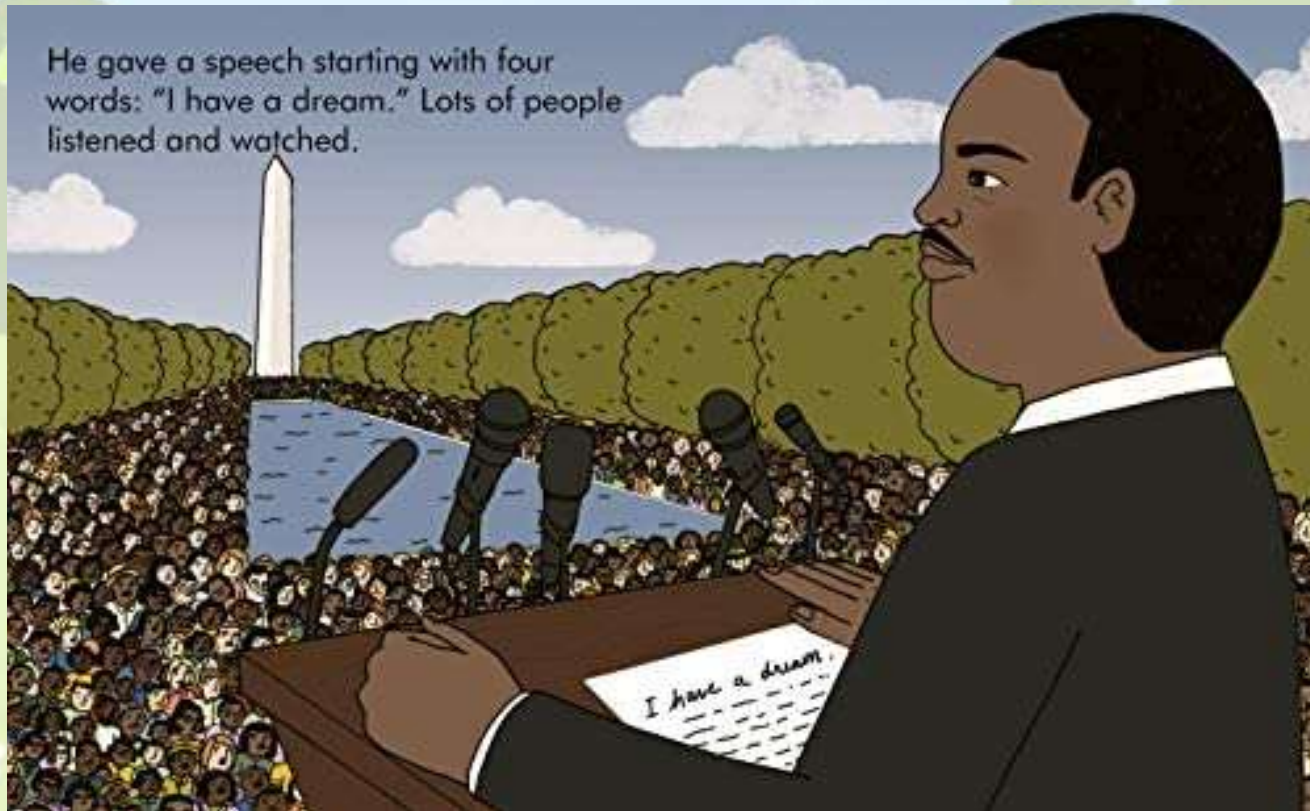
Many citizens were inspired by Rosa's story, and Martin's words. Suddenly, buses were almost empty. They stayed empty for many more days, months and years until segregation on Montgomery buses finally ended.

*It was the first major civil rights action in America...
But not the last. Martin encouraged people all over the
country to stand up for their rights and join in with
peaceful protests.*



They were often attacked, and Martin was arrested 29 times. But he and his followers never fought back with force. *He knew that hate can't drive out hate; only love can.*

Martin helped to organise a protest march on Washington, where he gave a life changing speech. It began with four simple, yet powerful words
“I have a dream”.



The next year, Martin became the youngest person to win the Nobel Peace Prize. His words of hope, peace and justice called a nation to change its laws and make them equal for everyone.



And if you listen to your heart, you can still hear little Martin asking you to keep his dream alive. A dream of a world where we are judged by our character, not by the colour of our skin.

Reflection

This is our school,
Let peace dwell here,
Let the rooms be full of
contentment.
Let love abide here,
Love of one another,
Love of mankind,
Love of life itself.
Let us remember



That as many hands build a
house,
So many hearts make a school
Help us to learn, play and share
together.

We hope our school will be place
of great discovery, adventure and
creativity.

May it be a place where we love to
learn and where we learn to love,
A place where everyone is
respected and all are deeply
valued.