

## Martin Luther King, Jr. by Michael (Age 10)

Martin Luther King Jr. was born January 15, 1929. When Martin Luther King was a child, his parents taught him to treat all people with respect. When Martin was growing older he saw white and black peoples were treated differently. His best friend was white. When it was the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school, he and his best friend went to different schools. They couldn't play together. Martin went to talk to his mother. She said his friend's parents didn't want their son playing with black people. Martin said he will change things when he grows up because he thought the color of a person's skin shouldn't matter.

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks was sitting in a white seat on a bus. She was arrested because she wouldn't move. Martin and some other people told black people to stay off the busses. Someone put a bomb in Martin's house. People were angry, but Martin said don't be mad at your white brothers and sisters, no matter what happened. He gave his famous "I have a dream speech" in Washington, D.C. in 1962. Two hundred thousand people came to listen, and many were white. Martin got the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 for telling people not to hate and to love each other like brothers and sisters. When he was standing, he got shot in April 1968. Martin Luther King, Jr. died in Memphis Tennessee. Nine years after his death, in 1977, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his battle against the unfair treatment of other people because of their race or religion.

He was the best person. He tried to get white and black people together. He tried to get all people fair treatment. All people need to have the same things and rights.