

The Children's Theatre

OF CINCINNATI
TCT On Tour

Impact
Ignite
Inspire



CORETTA SCOTT KING



Show Companion Activity Packet

THE POWER OF A CHILD

In this, our Centennial Season, TCT Celebrates the POWER OF A CHILD. Each of our MainStage productions this season features a unique child who profoundly and positively impacts the lives of others. TCT hopes to **IMPACT**, **IGNITE**, and **INSPIRE** children of all ages to claim their own unique power to change their worlds for the better.

ABOUT THE SHOW

Born in Alabama, Coretta Scott King overcame childhood adversity in the segregated south and attended Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio. A talented singer, she would go on to play an important role as the "First Lady of the American Civil Rights Movement", not only as the wife of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. but also as an independent woman. Coretta's story, brought to vivid life onstage, continues to be an inspiration to our nation and the world.

INTERACTIVE THEATRE

In traditional theatre, performance is limited to a designated stage area and the action of the play unfolds in front of audience members, who function as passive observers. By contrast, in interactive theatre, the performance engages audience members directly, making them active participants in the piece. Interactive Theater is not made for only entertainment, it is often produced to illustrate real life political and moral debates.

READ THE PASSAGE GIVEN BELOW AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW

Coretta Scott King (April 27, 1927 - January 30, 2006) was an American author, **activist**, civil rights leader, and the wife of Martin Luther King, Jr. She was a leader for the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s. King was also a singer who often incorporated music into her civil rights work. King met her husband while attending graduate school in Boston, Massachusetts. They both became increasingly active in the American Civil Rights Movement.

Coretta Scott King played a major role in the years after her husband's assassination in 1968 when she took on the leadership of the struggle for racial equality herself and became active in the Women's Movement. She founded the King Center for Nonviolent Social Change and sought to make Martin Luther King Jr's birthday a national holiday. She finally succeeded when President Ronald Reagan signed **legislation** which established Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on November 2, 1983.



King with her husband and daughter Yolanda in 1956.



Coretta Scott attends the signing of Martin Luther King Jr. Day by President Ronald Reagan on November 2nd, 1983.

In August 2005, King suffered a stroke which paralyzed her right side and left her unable to speak; five months later she died due to complications from cancer. Her funeral was attended by some 10,000 people, including four of five living US presidents. She was temporarily buried on the grounds of the King Center until being **interred** next to her husband. She was inducted into the Alabama Women's Hall of Fame and was the first African American to lie in the Georgia State Capitol. King has been referred to as "First Lady of the Civil Rights Movement".

The **Civil Rights Movement** (also known as the **American Civil Rights Movement**) was a decades-long struggle by African Americans to end legalized racial **discrimination** and racial **segregation** in the United States. The social movement's major nonviolent resistance campaigns eventually secured new protections in federal law for the human rights of all Americans.

The **Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change** is a nongovernmental, not-for-profit organization founded in 1968 by Coretta Scott King. King started the organization in the basement of the couple's home in the year following the 1968 assassination of her husband, Martin Luther King, Jr.

In 1981, the center's headquarters were moved into the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Site, a multimillion-dollar facility on Auburn Avenue which includes

King's birth home and the Ebenezer Baptist Church, where he preached from 1960 until his death.

As of 2012, The King Center's current President and CEO is King's youngest child, Bernice King. Located in Atlanta, Georgia, the organization carries out initiatives on both the domestic and international level. The Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change is dedicated to research, education and training in the principles, philosophy and methods of Kingian nonviolence.



King attending the 1976 Democratic National Convention.

LET'S DEFINE

- **Activist**

noun

a person who campaigns to bring about political or social change.

"police arrested three activists"

adjective

campaigning to bring about political or social change.

"activist groups around the world are organizing solidarity events"

- **Legislation**

noun

laws, considered collectively.

"tax legislation"

- **Inter**

verb

past tense: **interred**; past participle: **interred**

place (a corpse) in a grave or tomb, typically with funeral rites.

"he was interred with the military honors due to him"

- **Discrimination**

noun

the unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people or things, especially on the grounds of race, age, or sex.

"victims of racial discrimination"

- **Segregation**

noun

the enforced separation of different racial groups in a country, community, or establishment.

"an official policy of racial segregation"

READING QUESTIONS

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What condition did the Civil Rights Movement work to end?
 - a. High Taxes
 - b. Global Warming
 - c. Racial Discrimination & Segregation
 - d. Animal Cruelty

2. In what year was Coretta Scott King's husband Martin Luther King, Jr. assassinated?
 - a. 1959
 - b. 1968
 - c. 1969
 - d. 1973

3. Where is the King Center for Nonviolent Change located?
 - a. Atlanta, Georgia
 - b. Cincinnati, Ohio
 - c. Montgomery, Alabama
 - d. Washington, D.C.

4. How many U.S. Presidents living at the time of King's death attended her funeral?
 - a. 1 out of 3
 - b. 2 out of 4
 - c. 3 out of 3
 - d. 4 out of 5

TRUE OR FALSE

1. In addition to her work as an activist, King was also a painter who often incorporated her artwork into her civil rights work.

TRUE

FALSE

2. King met her husband, Martin Luther King, Jr. while attending graduate school in Boston, Massachusetts.

TRUE

FALSE

3. King founded the King Center for Civil Rights in 2001.

TRUE

FALSE

4. King was inducted into the Alabama Women's Hall of Fame.

TRUE

FALSE

5. King has been referred to as the "First Lady of the Civil Rights Movement".

TRUE

FALSE

WORD SEARCH

Find the following words in the grid below:

Alabama - Civil - Rights - Atlanta - Martin - Luther - Coretta - Scott - King -
Movement

A	L	A	T	T	O	C	R
L	T	N	I	T	R	A	M
A	T	L	I	V	I	C	O
B	R	U	A	G	G	O	V
A	C	T	O	N	H	A	E
M	A	H	D	I	T	L	M
A	C	E	L	K	S	A	E
C	O	R	E	T	T	A	N
T	T	O	C	S	H	W	T

JUMBLE

Rearrange the jumbled letters to form a word:

1. SCROMNIDAITIN _____
2. TONELONVIN _____
3. VISATICT _____
4. ATELGOSINIL _____

GRADE LEVEL ACTIVITIES

Grades 5-12

"First Person History"

Students will research pivotal figures in the SELMA TO MONTGOMERY MARCHES, a pivotal moment in the American Civil Rights Movement, and conduct "First Person" interviews, where interview subject role-play as their designated character in their answers to the selected questions.

Materials:

Internet Access

First Person Character Cards (see below)

Interview Sheets (see below)

Pencil & Paper

Directions

1. Read aloud to the class:

"The SELMA TO MONTGOMERY MARCHES were three protest marches, held in early 1965, organized by nonviolent activists to demonstrate the desire of African-American citizens to exercise their constitutional right to vote, in defiance of segregationist repression. By highlighting racial injustice, they contributed to the passage of the Voting Rights Act later that same year, a landmark achievement in the American Civil Rights Movement."

2. Have students randomly draw First Person Character Cards (from the list of historical figures below)

ELLA BAKER/AMELIA BOYNTON/STOKLY CARMICHAEL/ANNIE LEE

COOPER/SHERIFF JIM CLARK

JOHN DOAR/BETTIE MAE FIKES/JAMES FORMAN/MARIE FOSTER/JAMES GILDERSLEEVE

PRATHIA HALL/JIMMIE LEE JACKSON/RICHIE JEAN JACKSON/JOHN LEWIS/VIOLA LUZZO

CORETTA SCOTT KING/MARTIN LUTHER KING/BERNARD LAFAYETTE/COLIA LAFAYETTE

JOHN LEWIS/DIANE NASH/JAMES ORANGE/REV. FREDERICK D. REESE/FRED SHUTTLESWORTH

MAYOR JOSEPH H. SMITHERMAN/CT VIVIAN/SHEYANN WEBB/MALCOLM X

(If you have more students than characters, you may assign multiple students to the same role)

3. Have students research their character, and their involvement in the Selma to Montgomery Marches and the Civil Rights Movement.

4. Hand out Interview Sheets (see below). Have students find a different person for each question field on the Interview Sheet, write his or her name in the appropriate field, and their response to the question(s).
5. Bring students back together. Ask the questions from the Interview Sheet, and have students raise their hands if the question applies to their character. Ask the students some of the following comprehension questions:
 - What did you learn that surprised you?
 - What were some of the strengths and challenges of the people you interviewed?
 - Is there someone you interviewed whose story you could personally identify with? If so, why?

CHARACTER INTERVIEW SHEET (Complete on lined piece of paper)

My name (role) is:

Find a different person for each description below. Write his or her name in the appropriate field, and their response to the question(s).

1. Find a person who was active in or opposed to the Selma Movement before 1965. When did that person begin his or her activity and what did they do?

2. Find a person who was a victim of or responsible for physical violence in Selma. What happened/what was their role?

3. Find a person who attempted to register to vote or assisted others in the process. What happened? Why was this person willing to go to jail for themselves or others to vote?

4. Find a person who spent time in jail for their actions or beliefs. What happened? Why was this person willing to go to jail for the right to vote?

5. Find a person who was active in the Civil Rights Movement before Selma. What did they do?

6. Find a person who was under 25 years of age when they were active in the movement in Selma. What did they do?

Answer Key

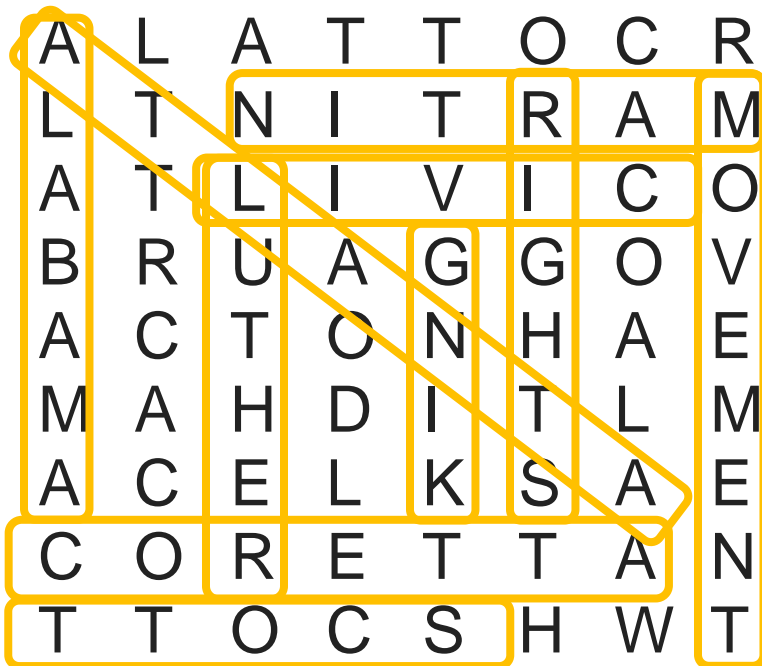
Multiple Choice

1. C
2. B
3. A
4. D

True or False

1. False
2. True
3. False
4. True
5. True

Word Search



Jumble

1. Discrimination
2. Nonviolent
3. Activist
4. Legislation

STANDARDS

Strand: History and Government

Topic(s): Heritage, Historical Thinking & Skills, and Civic Participation & Skills.

- Historical Thinking and Skills Historical thinking begins with a clear sense of time, past, present and future, and becomes more precise as students progress. Historical thinking includes skills such as locating, researching, analyzing and interpreting primary and secondary sources so that students can begin to understand the relationships among events and draw conclusions.
- Ideas and events from the past have shaped the world as it is today. The actions of individuals and groups have made a difference in the lives of others.
- Civic participation embraces the ideal that an individual actively engages in his or her community, state or nation for the common good. Students need to practice effective communication skills including negotiation, compromise and collaboration. Skills in accessing and analyzing information are essential for citizens in a democracy.