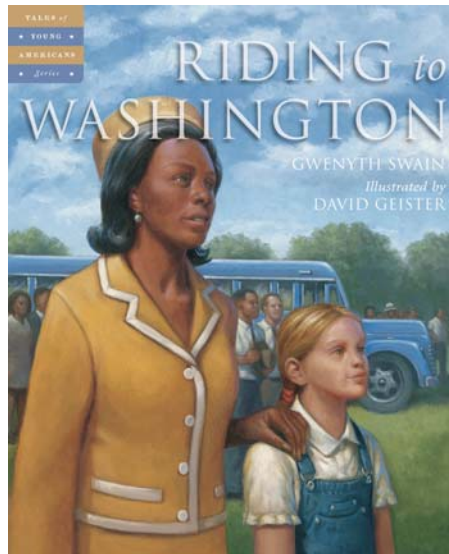


Teacher's Guide



Riding to Washington

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Published by

**Sleeping Bear Press
310 N. Main St., Suite 300
Chelsea, MI 48118
800-487-2323**

www.sleepingbearpress.com

IS IT HARD TO BE BRAVE?

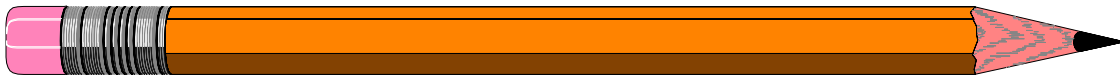
What does it mean to be brave? Do you have to fight in a war to be brave?
After reading *Riding to Washington*, make a list of each time you think Janie
was brave.

Make a list of times when you have been brave.

Janie

Me

Draw a picture of one time you were brave.



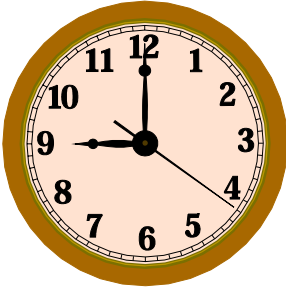
FREEDOM CROSSWORD

Riding to Washington is an exciting book about the civil rights movement. Take this trip with Janie as she boards the bus to hear Dr. Martin Luther King.

Solve the freedom crossword.

1. F _ _ _
2. R _ _ _ _
3. E _ _ _
4. E _ _ _
5. D _ _ _ _ _ _
6. O _ _ _ _ _ _ _
7. M _ _ _ _

1. All people want to be _____
2. People fight for human _____
3. A shade of black _____
4. _____ citizen has the right to vote
5. We live in a _____
6. People want the _____ to do well
7. _____ Luther King



TIME ON THE BUS

Janie and her father rode on a bus from Indianapolis to Washington, D.C. in the book *Riding to Washington*. How long a trip do you think this was?

Solve these time problems. Use the clock on this page if you need help.

1. The bus left Indianapolis at 9:00 a.m. The first stop it made was $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours later. What time did it stop? _____

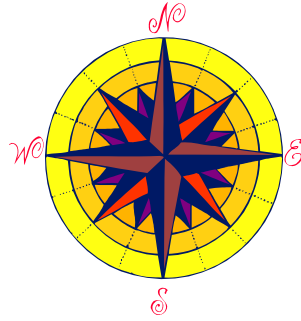
2. The bus stopped to refuel 7 hours after they left Indianapolis. What was the time it refueled? _____

3. At midnight the bus had been traveling how many hours? _____

4. The driver found a restaurant where a mixed group could eat. They stopped at 5:20 p.m. and left the restaurant at 6:05 p.m. How long were they at the restaurant? _____

5. The bus finally arrived in Washington, D.C. at 7:30 the next morning. What was the total time spent on the trip? _____

Make up your own time problem.



NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, OR WEST

Enjoy reading *Riding to Washington* and think about the message it brings to all people. The bus in the story took the group from Indianapolis, Indiana to Washington, D.C. In which direction did they go?

Use a U.S. map and the compass rose on this page to help you answer each question.

Name the direction you would need to go to get from one place to the other.

1. Indianapolis to Washington, D.C. _____
2. Miami to Washington, D.C. _____
3. New York City to Washington, D.C. _____
4. Washington, D.C. to St. Louis _____
5. Detroit to Washington, D.C. _____
6. Washington, D.C. to Roanoke _____
7. Dallas to Washington, D.C. _____
8. Chicago to Nashville _____
9. Los Angeles to Seattle _____
10. Albuquerque to Atlanta _____

ACROSTIC POETRY

ACROSTIC POETRY

Use the first letter of each word in this name to write a description of Martin Luther King and why he was famous.

M	_____
A	_____
R	_____
T	_____
I	_____
N	_____
L	_____
U	_____
T	_____
H	_____
E	_____
R	_____
K	_____
I	_____
N	_____
G	_____

Draw a picture showing one of Dr. King's attributes.



GREAT AMERICANS

There have been many influential people in the history of the United States. Whose ideas and actions have had the greatest effect on civil rights in this country?

Choose 3 people who you feel have had the biggest impact on our civil rights in this country and explain what they did and why it was important.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



Riding to Washington

Discover what one young girl learned about the civil rights of all people in *Riding to Washington*.

Answer these questions about the book.

1. What was the girl's name in the story? _____
2. Why did her parents call her a spitfire? _____
3. Where did she live? _____
4. Why were they going to Washington, D.C.? _____
5. When did Janie stand up for what was right? _____
6. Who is the author of the book? _____
7. Why couldn't the group eat at restaurants along the way? _____

8. What was the dream that Dr. King spoke about? _____
9. How did the trip change Janie? _____



A COLLAGE IN BLACK AND WHITE

Janie learned how much alike white and black people are in *Riding to Washington*. Enjoy reading this wonderful book.

Make a collage in black and white.

Materials

1 sheet black construction paper
1 sheet white construction paper
1 large sheet of brightly colored construction paper
scissors
glue

Directions

1. Cut both the small sheets of construction paper into square or abstract shapes.
2. Use the pieces to make a design on the large sheet of paper. Try several designs before gluing the pieces down.
3. Title your collage.

How are the black and white pieces different? _____

How are they alike? _____

How would your collage be different if you only used one color for the pieces? _____

What would the world be like if we were all the same color? _____



History is Exciting!

The United States has a very short history. It is only a little over 230 years old, yet so many events have taken place in such a short time. Read about one of these historic events that changed American in *Riding to Washington*.

Brainstorm 5 ways Dr. Martin Luther King's speech has changed the United States.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

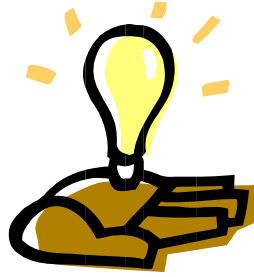
Make a list of exciting events that have changed the United States in the last 230 years.



Imagine that the laws changed again! Imagine a law was passed that did not allow people of different races and cultures to go to the same school, eat in the same restaurants, or go to the same churches.

Write a story about what your family life might be like if you had to move, change schools and church, and restaurants.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



This Little Light of Mine

You can learn about one young girl's experience with the civil rights movement when you read *Riding to Washington*.

In the book the people on the bus sang to pass the time. One of the songs they sang was "This Little Light of Mine."

Explain what you think the phrase, "*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine*" meant to the people on the bus.

Explain what that phrase would mean to you today.



DEAR MAYOR,

Can a child really make a difference in what happens in their community? You bet they can! Study your community for a problem that you think needs to be solved. Write a letter to the mayor explaining the problem and a possible solution. Be creative in your thinking.

Dear Mayor _____,

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.



The Freedom News

Have you ever been part of a historical event? Janie had the opportunity to hear Dr. Martin Luther King speak in Washington, D.C. in 1963. Read about her journey in *Riding to Washington*.

Pretend you had been on the bus to Washington and heard Dr. King's speech.

Write a newspaper article retelling your experience.

Use the graphic organizer to help you organize your article.

WHO _____

WHAT _____

WHERE _____

WHEN _____

WHY _____

HOW _____

Give your article an exciting opening line and title. Make it interesting to the reader.



BEWARE OF PREJUDICE

Have you ever been discriminated against because of your religion or skin color? Have you ever wondered what it feels like to be the object of discrimination?

Pretend when you arrived at your classroom today your teacher had posted this new set of rules for the class.

1. Students with blue eyes may sit anywhere they choose in the classroom.
2. Only the blue-eyed students may drink from the classroom water fountains.
3. Blue-eyed students may have a snack break.
4. Blue eyes may be first in the lunch line.
5. Blue eyes get 10 minutes extra recess.

1. Explain how you would feel if you had brown or green eyes. _____

2. Explain how you would feel if you had blue eyes. _____

RIDING TO WASHINGTON

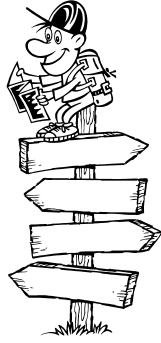


Discuss the following questions with the class before reading the book *Riding to Washington*.

Anticipatory questions

1. Are all people the same?
2. How does the color of your skin make you different?
3. Who was Dr. Martin Luther King?
4. Why do some people dislike others based on the color of their skin?
5. What would you do if restaurants didn't allow children to eat in them?
6. What do you think the term "civil rights" means?
7. What did Abraham Lincoln do that caused a lot of controversy?
8. Where is Washington, D.C.? Why is it special?
9. Should girls be allowed to play on all boys' sports teams?
10. Discuss the importance of Washington, D.C. to the story.

Have students listen to the song "We Shall Overcome."
Discuss what that song means.



Choose the Right Way

Decisions can be difficult to make. In *Riding to Washington*, Janie's father told her when she had a decision to make, to make the right decision.

Read each situation below. List the choices that could be made and the consequences of making each choice.

1. You are having problems with your grades in your English class. You forgot about the book report that is due tomorrow. You find a copy of a report that your sister did several years ago on the same book. She got an A on the report. What would you do?

2. Your friend brought an I-Pod to school that she was told to leave at home. You borrow it at lunch and accidentally drop and break it. What should you do?

WHO IS YOUR ROLE MODEL?

Create a poster of your role model. On your poster place the name of your role model, a picture (photograph or drawn), and symbols that show what makes that person your role model.

Write an essay about this special person and why they are your role model. Attach the essay to your poster.

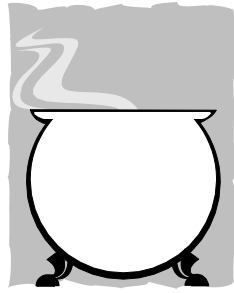
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After you have read this wonderful story think about Dr. King's dream and how it changed the United States.

Write a speech explaining your dream for today's world. Make your speech 2-3 minutes long. Practice giving it and then give it to your class.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



WE'RE A MELTING POT

The United States prides itself on being a melting pot of people. That means we welcome people from all over the world.

Survey your class to see which continent their ancestors came from to the United States. Choose one parent's ancestry.

Africa

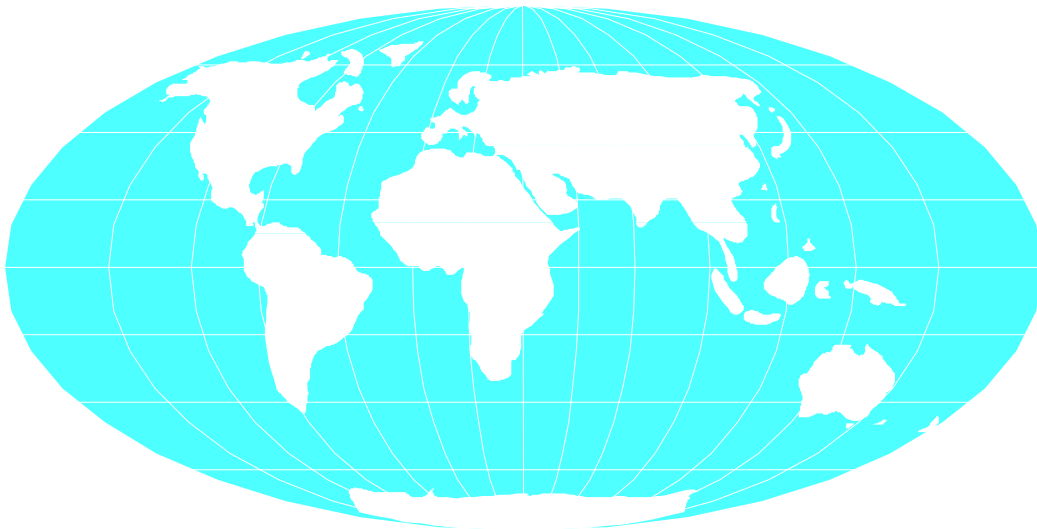
Asia

Europe

South America

other

Place the number of students who have an ancestor on each continent below.





Thank You Dr. King

***Riding to Washington* describes one girl's experiences as she rides a bus to Washington, D.C. to hear Dr. King speak. The trip had a profound effect on her and her understanding of other people.**

Write a thank-you letter to Dr. King thanking him for all he did to make the world a better place.

Dear Dr. King,

Sincerely,

Alike and Different

Venn Diagram

Janie and the young boy at the service station in *Riding to Washington* were close to the same age. Think carefully about attributes of each of these children.

Make a Venn diagram comparing Janie and the boy. How are they alike and how are they different?

Janie

Both

Boy

Riding to Washington

Answer Sheet

Is it hard to be brave- she got on the bus, went to the restroom with Mrs. Taylor, told the boy to make the right choice and give them the key.

Freedom crossword- 1) free 2) rights 3) ebony 4) every 5) democracy 6) opportunity 7) Martin

Time on the Bus- 1) 12:30 p.m. 2) 4:00 p.m. 3) 15 hours 4) 45 minutes 5) 22 1/2 hours

North, South, East, West- 1) SE 2) N 3) S 4) SW 5) SE 6) SW 7) NE 8) S 9) N 10) E

Riding to Washington- 1) Janie 2) always gets in trouble 3) Indianapolis 4) hear Martin Luther King 5) when she told the boy to make the right choice and give them the key 6) Gwenyth Swain 7) restaurant wouldn't serve mixed groups 8) freedom for all people 9) understood what the black people needed