

Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. with Pathful



On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 18, 2027, we celebrate his life and legacy. This activity guide will highlight ways for you to use Pathful to reflect on the concepts of leadership, helping others, and pursuing your dreams. We hope this inspires you to do great things!

Main Activity

How will you give back?

Step 1

Find a Career

Browse [Career Profiles](#) in Pathful and find one that interests you. It does not have to be in a specific field. It doesn't even need to be your dream job. All that matters is you identify a career that you could see yourself in one day.

Pro tip: Looking for guidance on a career that would be a good fit? Take the [Career Cluster Interest Assessment!](#)

Step 2

Research the Career Profile

Take the time to thoroughly research this Career Profile. For this activity, we'd encourage you to check out the Career Profile's:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| ☐ Virtual Job Shadow video | ☐ Q&A videos |
| ☐ Required education | ☐ Earnings |
| ☐ Additional links | |

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.

Martin Luther King Jr.



Step 3 Writing Reflection

Now that you know more about this profession, reflect on what you've learned. In the space below, write 3 to 5 sentences on how you will be able to help others as a professional in the career you chose.

Pro tip: Be creative! Will you earn money to give to charity? Will you provide a needed service to members of your community? Will you bring happiness to someone's life?

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

Step 4 Share

Martin Luther King Jr. was known for his skills as an orator. It's time to practice your public speaking skills! Share with your peers the Career Profile you chose and the reflection you've written about how you'll help others in this career. This can be done as a class or in smaller groups.

Supporting Activities View these Employability Skills Videos:

- [Helping Others: Citizenship at Its Finest](#)
- [How to Make Opportunities](#)
- [Overcome Adversity by Following Your Values](#)
- [Be Crazy Enough to Change the World](#)
- [How to Engage Everyone In the Room to Lead Effectively](#)
- [21st Century Leadership Skills](#)

Educator Page

How will you give back?

Time

45 to 55 minutes, plus sharing

Grades

9 to 12

Best For

Martin Luther King Jr. Day (January 18, 2027), leadership units or Career Exploration

What Students Will Do

Students connect Dr. King's legacy of service to their own futures. They research a [Career Profile](#) in Pathful and write about how they could help others in that career.

Background for You

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 to 1968) was a minister and a leader of the American civil rights movement. He used nonviolent action, including marches, boycotts and speeches, to work for equal rights and fair treatment for all people. He gave his "I Have a Dream" speech at the 1963 March on Washington and received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a federal holiday on the third Monday of January and is often observed as a day of service.

Before You Start

- Print pages 1 and 2 for each student. The educator page is for you only.
- Make sure students can log in to Pathful. Steps 1 and 2 need access to Career Profiles.
- Optional: preview one of the [Employability Skills Videos](#) listed at the end of page 2.

How to Run It

1. (5 to 7 min) Share the background. Ask: what does it mean to serve others?
2. (12 to 18 min) Steps 1 and 2: students find a Career Profile that interests them (it does not have to be a dream job) and use the checklist to explore its Virtual Job Shadow video, Q&A videos, required education, earnings and additional links.
3. (10 to 15 min) Step 3: students write 3 to 5 sentences about how they could help others as a professional in that career. Use the pro tip prompts: earning money to give to charity, providing a needed service, bringing happiness to someone.
4. (15 min or more) Step 4: students share their Career Profile and reflection in small groups or as a class, practicing public speaking.
5. Follow-up: assign one or more of the Employability Skills Videos listed under Supporting activities.

Discussion Prompts

- How can any career help others?
- Which supporting video changed how you think about leadership?
- What is one way you could serve your community this month?

Support and Extend

- Short on time? Do Steps 1 to 3 in one class period and Step 4 in the next.
- Support: provide sentence starters such as "As a _____, I could help people by _____."
- Extend: invite a community leader to speak, or have students plan a small service project tied to their career.