

# Home-School Connection #16

1/14/16

Write at least 3 thought provoking questions

## WHY NO SCHOOL ON MONDAY?

The federal holiday on Monday has been given to our nation to honor and continue the work of Dr. King. It was a long battle to create this holiday. You can see more about that here. <http://www.thekingcenter.org/making-king-holiday>



Coretta Scott King, Dr. King's wife said the holiday "... must be more than a day of celebration... let this holiday be a day of reflection...a day of getting involved in nonviolent action for social and economic progress."

You can show your parents the little video about the day of service we watched. <http://www.nationalservice.gov/mlkday>. What did John Lewis or Ruby Bridges say that gave you something to think about? We also watched a few minutes of Dr. King's *Mountain Top* speech. Discuss your ideas on how Dr. King inspired people from different backgrounds to join together in sit-ins, marches, boycotts and other non-violent actions even when it meant they could be put in jail or harmed. Share the link(s) you looked up on our social studies webpage.

<http://5starkwebsite.weebly.com/-5s-social-studies-links.html> Write below the links you looked at and discussed. .

**SHOES:** To honor Dr. King and his work, this year every Driscoll classroom focused on empathy and getting in the shoes of others. Also, thanks to Driscoll families, our main hallway has an art installation of shoe donations to symbolize standing together, walking the walk and getting in the shoes of others. 5S helped set up the shoes in the hall. On Tuesday, this incredible collection of shoes and boots will go to Cradles to Crayons for children and families who are in need. <https://www.cradlestocrayons.org/> How many shoes do you think Driscoll collected? What did you think of the art installation? Do you think it did make a statement?



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**STEREOTYPES AND BREAKING THE MOLD:** The 4th & 5th grade focused on the connection between Dr. King's work and breaking down stereotypes. Have a discussion about stereotypes and what they are. You were asked to make a drawing for a pretend kindergartner who asked you to draw a picture of a Native American. Due to movies, sports team logos, and other stereotypical images, it wasn't surprising how many of you drew pictures of people wearing feathers, headbands, war paint and holding bow and arrows, etc. It's like when people are asked to draw scientists, they often draw white men in lab coats with hair like Albert Einstein even when their own moms or aunts are scientists. Share what types of stereotypes your friends wrote about. Ask your parents to discuss places where they see or experience stereotypes and examples of people who are breaking down those stereotypes.

**MATH/LEARNING ABOUT SCALE AND OUR RIVER TABLE:** One of our class maps is 1 inch = 405 miles. Another map is 1 inch = 50 miles. Our river table is 1 inch is 48 inches or 1 inch = 4 feet. Discuss what might go on the river table and based on the scale, estimate how high you will build those things.

**EACH KINDNESS/RIPPLES & SCIENCE:** by Jacqueline Woodson. Describe



the story, how it ends and what it has to do with Empathy.

Based on the book, we each put a rock in water and discussed a kindness someone gave us or we gave someone. The rock was supposed to create a ripple to show how kindness ripples out, but it didn't ripple. Talk about why you think it didn't ripple and

if you want, you could experiment at home to see if you can make a ripple and why that might be.

**QUOTES:** Speaking of kindness going out in ripples, you looked at some Dr. King quotes and other quotes about kindness. Please read the quotes with your parents. They are on our webpage and below. Discuss the ones you focused on and how it is

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something you do want to work on. Then ask your parents which one(s) they find most inspiring. Write the title of those.

## **OTHER: Pick at least 2 - more is fine. Check the ones you talk about.**

- Energy and the Discovery Box
- Possible Colonial Village names
- Animal/Environment protection project
- Maps, Colonial Maps and the World Atlas
- Having a Substitute
- The State of the Union by President Obama
- The State of 5S by Ms. Stark
- Your response to the State of the Union
- The Fraction Pre-test and what you are learning or need to learn
- Chinese: You are learning about major cities of China and their locations. You will learn landmarks of each city and Chinese geography in the next two weeks.
- Colonial History and your Revolutionary Relatives
- Economics
- Crow Movie
- Web-nesday, Morning Meeting Topics,
- Art, music, conservatory, library, P.E.
- Something Else?

**Due: TUESDAY:** We made a time to do this on:\_\_\_ Parent Signature & Comments:

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**Student Rating (1-5)** Please say why and which topics lead to the most in-depth discussions.

## THINKING ABOUT QUOTES OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. AND KINDNESS

Dr. KING QUOTES:

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

"In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."

"Never, never be afraid to do what's right, especially if the well-being of a person or animal is at stake. Society's punishments are small compared to the wounds we inflict on our soul when we look the other way."

BELOW ARE SOME KINDNESS QUOTES:

We must use time wisely and forever realize that the time is always ripe to do right."  
Nelson Mandela

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.      Aesop

"Be kind to unkind people - they need it the most."  
- Ashleigh Brilliant

"What wisdom can you find that is greater than kindness?"  
Jean-Jacques Rousseau

"Never look down on anybody unless you're helping them up."  
— Jesse Jackson

"Indifference and neglect often do much more damage than outright dislike."  
— J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*

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Pick one kindness quote. UNDERLINE IT. DISCUSS how it connects to you. Explain how you might act differently as a result of thinking about it.