

It's January!



Facts about January:

January was named after Janus, the Roman God of doors, gates, and beginnings. Janus had two faces – one facing forward towards the future, and one facing back to the past.

January is the second month of the Winter season in the Northern Hemisphere. For places in the Southern Hemisphere, like Australia, it is summertime.

Holidays in January:

New Years Day – January 1st

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – 3rd Monday of January

Religious Observances:

Epiphany – January 6th

What's your favorite thing about January?

Cut along the red line and fold the vocabulary card in half so the word is on one side and the definition is on the other.

Resolution

To decide on or determine a course of action; to resolve.

Example: I made a resolution to eat all of my vegetables at dinner.

Civil Rights

The individual, legal rights to personal liberty in all equality as established by Amendments 13 and 14 of the United States Constitution and other Congressional Acts.

Justice

The quality of being just, right, lawful, or moral; to administer the deserved reward or punishment for an act.

Evergreen

Having green leaves throughout the year. Old foliage is not lost until new grows in its place.

January Word List

Unity
Winter
Cold
Snow
Sleigh
Icicle
Fire
Gloves
Frosty
frozen

Jacket
Reindeer
Arctic
Blanket
Blizzard
Chill
January
Coat
Mittens
polar

Scarf
Ski
Sled
Sweater
Wool
celebration

Compound Words

Evergreen
Wintertime
Snowman
Snowball
Snowflake
Firewood
fireplace



Happy New Year!

January 1st is New Years Day. It is celebrated every year. People ring in the new year by celebrating on December 31st, New Years Eve. Some people have parties, some people spend the evening with family. When the clock strikes midnight, everyone cheers and yells "Happy New Year!"

Some cities hold big parties where people can gather in the streets to ring in the new year together, usually ending with a grand show of fireworks. New York holds a party in Times Square with a giant lighted ball that drops at midnight.

Other popular spots for New Years celebrations in the United States include Las Vegas, Nevada; Hollywood, California; New Orleans, Louisiana; and Miami, Florida .

Can you find the states named above? Color them on the map below.



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Every year on the third Monday in January we honor Martin Luther King, Jr. He was a Baptist minister, activist, and a leader of the African American civil rights movement in the 1950s and 1960s. King played a major role in the creation of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights act of 1965. He was also awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Martin Luther King, Jr. believed in helping others. He believed in nonviolent protests and boycotts. He believed there were peaceful ways to solve problems. In a time faced with so much adversity, King never backed down from what he believed and never walked away from people who needed help.

Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is what are you doing for others?"

How do you help others?

List three things you can do to help others that you don't already do.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Excerpt from Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Famous Speech

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a *dream* today!

And this will be the day -- this will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning:

*My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing.
Land where my fathers died, land of the Pilgrim's pride,
From every mountainside, let freedom ring!*

And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true.

And so let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire.

Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York.

Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania.

Let freedom ring from the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado.

Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California.

But not only that:

Let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia.

Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee.

Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi.

From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

And when this happens, and when we allow freedom ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when *all* of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual:

Free at last! Free at last!

*Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!*³