



“Philly Has a Dream for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day” Suggestions for Viewing Episode

What is Heritage Storytime?

Heritage Storytime (HS) is a series of monthly storytime episodes presented virtually for children. Each HS episode will focus on a heritage-related theme and will feature a children’s book read-along as well as complementary learning materials and activities. Visit LearnPhillyHeritage.org/Stories to learn more.

Episode Description:

Join us for the second episode of Heritage Storytime, where we’ll hear Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s inspiring “I Have a Dream” speech, read from a book with beautiful illustrations by Caldecott Honor winning artist Kadir Nelson. Dr. King’s powerful message of freedom and equality for all people will be explored further with a virtual tour of the [Johnson House](#), presented in partnership with [History Hunters](#). We’ll learn all about the people who fought for racial justice in Philadelphia in this Underground Railroad Station and House Museum. We’ll also present opportunities for service-learning during the [MLK Day of Service](#) and provide additional teaching resources and ideas for exploring the episode’s themes.

Book:

[I Have a Dream](#) By Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (Author), Kadir Nelson (Illustrator)
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s inspiring “I Have a Dream” speech is brought to life through the beautiful and vibrant illustrations of Caldecott Honor winning artist Kadir Nelson. Dr. King delivered this speech in 1963 in front of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington. His powerful message of freedom and equality for all people is as important, relevant, and true today as it was then.

Here are some questions that teachers, students, and families can explore when they view this episode of HS:

1. How does Melissa help you think about heritage?
2. What can we learn from stories about Philadelphia?
3. What did you learn about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “dream” for all of us in the United States? [Here’s a link to the entire speech as he gave it](#), just in case you want to see him giving it in 1963 in Washington, D.C. (It’s on Youtube.)
4. What do you think about Dr. King’s “beautiful symphony of brotherhood”? What does this idea mean to you? How can you be a part of the symphony? If you wanted to draw this symphony and *your place* in it, what would your drawing look like?
5. Dr. King’s speech is something called a “primary document”. These words mean that Dr. King actually wrote it. It is all *his own words*. If you wanted to put his ideas into *your own words*, what would *you* write?
6. Dr. King mentioned the phrase “let freedom ring” a lot. Why do you think he did this in his speech? What does this phrase mean to you?
7. What did you think of the drawings? If you wanted to add more drawings to show Dr. King’s ideas, what would you draw?

8. Have you ever visited Johnson House? What did you already know about it?
9. In the Virtual Tour of Johnson House, you will get to explore many different parts of the house, and how it is connected to how the Underground Railroad actually worked. How does the narrator help you to think about Philadelphia's heritage?
10. How do the maps in the Virtual Tour help you to understand the land and waterways that are connected to where the Johnson House is located?
11. Have you already heard of History Hunters? What do you know about them? Would you like to be a part of what they do?
12. Are you planning on participating in the MLK Jr. Day of Service? How? What are your ideas for some activities this year?
13. What is one way that you can be an advocate for equality at your school or in your community?

Here are some vocabulary words and phrases that you will hear when you watch and listen to this Heritage Storytime episode. You may want to look them up in a dictionary!

abolition, abolitionism
advocate
character
dream
economic justice
enslaved Africans
freedom
heritage
Hicksite Quakers
leader
primary document
racial justice
self-evident
service
speech
symphony
Underground Railroad