

## Martin Luther King 8-Step PBLP (Grades 7-12)

**Objective:** To inspire and equip students with a civic engagement mindset by exploring the life and impact of Martin Luther King Jr., emphasizing justice, leadership, and community service through an interdisciplinary STEAMS (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics, and Social Studies) approach.

### Round Table

- ❖ **Opening Question:** How can learning about historical figures like Martin Luther King Jr. inspire us to create a more just and compassionate society today?
- ❖ **Purpose:** Introduce students to Martin Luther King Jr.'s life, leadership, and contributions to the Civil Rights Movement, emphasizing the importance of justice and equality.
- ❖ **Materials:** Biographies, documentaries, multimedia presentations on Martin Luther King Jr.

### Reflection Point

- ❖ **Discussion Questions:**
  - How did Martin Luther King Jr.'s leadership impact societal change?
  - What strategies can we use today to promote equality and justice?
- ❖ **Materials:** Speech excerpts, including the "I Have a Dream" speech, for deeper discussion.

## Knowledge Setting

<b>Science (S): The Science of Sound and Speech</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Explore the science behind sound projection and public speaking effectiveness.</li><li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Analyze the physics of sound waves and how they affect speech delivery.</li></ul>
<b>Technology (T): Media and Advocacy Tools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Examine the role of technology in spreading MLK's message.</li><li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Explore historical use of radio and television during the Civil Rights Movement and compare it to modern social media advocacy.</li></ul>
<b>Engineering (E): Organizing Peaceful Demonstrations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Understand the logistics behind planning peaceful protests.</li><li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Study the planning of the March on Washington and create a blueprint for a modern community march.</li></ul>
<b>Arts (A): Storytelling through Visual Arts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Explore how art can communicate social justice messages.</li><li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Create a mural or digital art piece inspired by MLK's speeches and themes.</li></ul>

<p><b>Mathematics (M): Data Analysis of Social Change</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Use statistics to explore the impact of the Civil Rights Movement.</li> <li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Identify or analyze data from historical milestones (e.g., voter registration increases) and graph the societal impact over time.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Social Studies (SS): The Legacy of Civil Rights Movements</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Explore the historical context of MLK's activism and its impact.</li> <li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Timeline creation comparing the Civil Rights Movement with other global human rights movements.</li> </ul>

## Project

### Progress Map for Project Delivery

- ❖ **Week 1: Project Proposal**
  - Students create a written proposal outlining the focus of their project and community benefit.
- ❖ **Week 2: Project Approval and Community Engagement Plan**
  - Students submit their proposals and outline how their work will positively impact the community, ensuring alignment with the project's learning objectives and addressing real-world needs.
- ❖ **Week 3: Research Progress Update**
  - Students conduct research and gather data related to their chosen focus area.
- ❖ **Week 4: Draft of Final Project**
  - Students compile their findings into a draft report or presentation.
- ❖ **Week 5: Final Project Refinement and Approval for Implementation**
  - Final feedback is provided, and the projects are presented at a community event involving local leaders and stakeholders.

### Science (S): Sound and Speech Innovation

- ❖ **Project Example:** Develop a concept for a public speaking aid or tool that improves clarity and projection, using scientific principles of sound waves. Outline the features and explain how it can benefit the community during public events.

<b>Technology (T): Digital Advocacy Campaign</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Create a mock digital advocacy campaign using tools like Canva or social media templates, focusing on a local issue related to justice and equality. Design a website or social media page that effectively communicates the cause and encourages community participation.</li> </ul>
<b>Engineering (E): Peaceful Event Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Develop a blueprint or draft a plan for organizing a peaceful march or community event. Include logistical elements such as crowd management, sound equipment, and messaging strategies while emphasizing non-violent principles.</li> </ul>
<b>Arts (A): Visual Messaging and Storytelling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Design a series of murals inspired by MLK's key quotes. Create visual messaging that connects historical lessons with present-day community issues, focusing on impactful storytelling.</li> </ul>
<b>Mathematics (M): Civil Rights Data Analysis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Develop a statistical infographic highlighting historical and modern civil rights data. Use graphs and charts to compare progress over time and identify ongoing disparities.</li> </ul>
<b>Social Studies (SS): Civil Rights Movement Modern Impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Develop a podcast episode that highlights how MLK Civil Rights Movements have impacted modern social movements.</li> </ul>

## Community Involvement

- ❖ **Objective:** Connect classroom learning with practical, community-based applications.
- ❖ **Activity:** Partner with local organizations for a community discussion event reflecting on MLK's impact and how youth can contribute to justice today. Students will present their statistical infographics and visual storytelling projects, which will be developed through a structured process:

## Assessment

- ❖ **Objective:** Evaluate students based on their project completion, interdisciplinary thinking, and ability to connect the historical impact of Martin Luther King Jr.'s work with modern-day activism and social justice efforts.
- ❖ **Methods:** Peer and teacher evaluations, including a community showcase of completed projects.

## Feedback Loop

- ❖ **Activity:** Facilitate a reflective discussion on the qualities and strategies needed to become an effective leader in the face of modern challenges, drawing inspiration from Martin Luther King Jr.'s leadership in the Civil Rights Movement.
- ❖ **Journal Prompt:** "In what ways did the legacy of MLK impact historical and modern civil rights movements?"

## Resume Integration

- ❖ **Objective:** Help students articulate their project experience and the lessons learned from MLK's leadership on their resumes.

- ❖ **Methods:** Schedule appointments with school advisors to discuss how to highlight project accomplishments, such as public speaking, teamwork, historical analysis, and community involvement inspired by MLK's advocacy work, in resume bullet points.

For more 8-Step Project-Based Lesson Plans check out our website at [www.steamsinitiative.org](http://www.steamsinitiative.org)

A STEAMS Central, Inc. Program  
STEAMS Central, Inc. | STEAMS Initiative  
8605 Santa Monica Blvd  
#123617  
West Hollywood, CA  
90069-4109  
[info@steamsinitiative.org](mailto:info@steamsinitiative.org)  
833-379-6892