

Name _____

Date _____

Civil Rights



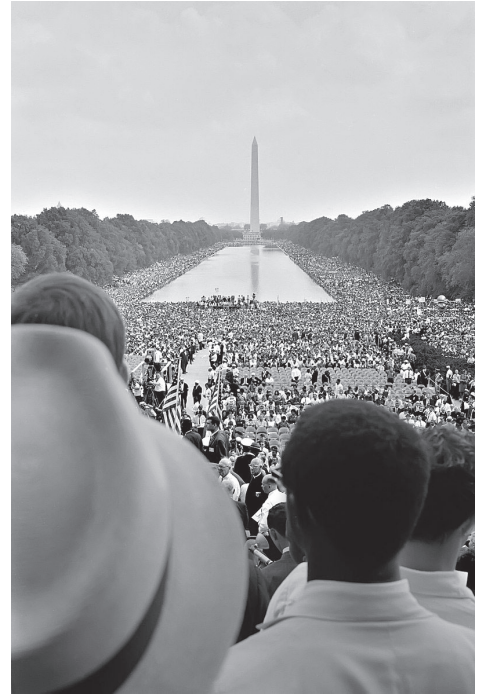
The March on Washington

Directions: Read about the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, then follow the creative prompt on the following page.

The March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom was one of the biggest political rallies in the history of the United States. At the rally, civil rights supporters and activists gathered to show their support for the civil rights movement. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. made his famous “I Have a Dream” speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to 250,000 people.

In response to other protests taking place at the time, President Kennedy had signed an act that ensured many rights for African Americans. To help encourage Congress to adopt the new laws and to encourage politicians all across the country to take a firm stance against racism, the March on Washington was held.

On August 28, 1963, over 250,000 people gathered on the National Mall to show their support for civil rights and equality. With the march, they showed the rest of the country that it wasn't just African Americans who wanted equality — people of all backgrounds attended the march because they wanted to see change in the lives of all American citizens, no matter the color of their skin. People sang songs and gave speeches. Among the 250,000 attendees were even some famous actors, singers and athletes who believed in equality.



The March on Washington

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

— Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Directions: Imagine you were at the March on Washington. What message would you have most wanted to share? Draw yourself among the marchers, and write your message of freedom on the sign you're holding.

