



Maggie's Civics Corner

Lesson 14

Today's lesson is about Equal Rights: Treating everyone with respect is important to us dogs – and to us as Americans! Throughout history, we have had brave Americans stick up for each other to make sure all our neighbors are treated equally. One of these heroes is Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Every January, the whole country takes a day to remember Dr. King's impact. He stood up for racial equality through peaceful protests and was a driving force behind the Civil Rights Act, which made racial segregation illegal. We should all try to respect others and support equality like Dr. King did.

Sticky Situation: Dogs come in all shapes, sizes, and colors. One day, my favorite dog park put up a sign saying that dogs with floppy ears are no longer allowed to play in the park. Does this seem fair? How would you explain to the dog park owners that all dogs should be allowed to play in the park, no matter what their ears look like?

Martin Luther King, Jr., once said, "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." In your own words, what did Dr. King mean by this?

Activity: Equality means that everyone is treated the same, no matter what their gender, ability, or race is. Look at the 5 sentences below and circle all the sentences where people are treated equally.

Only boys can play at recess.

Everyone is allowed to join the soccer team.

Maggie loves playing with all kids!

Boys and girls can learn the same things at school.

Only kids with blue eyes are allowed to join dance class.

Civic Resources: To learn more about Martin Luther King, Jr. and the fight for equal rights for African Americans, go to: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_IB0i6bJJjw.