Celebrate MLK Day:
Peace Dove Inspirational Paper Weaving
Inspired by the artistry of South Carolina basket maker Mary Jackson as well as the life and teachings of Martin Luther King, Jr.

“If you can’t fly then run, if you can’t run then walk, if you can’t walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward.”
–Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mary A. Jackson
Basket, ca 2000
Charleston sweet grass, palmetto palm frond, and bulrush.
Racine Art Museum, Gift of Marcia and Alan Docter
Peace Dove Inspirational Paper Weaving

South Carolina basket maker Mary Jackson initially learned about making baskets from her mother and grandmother who taught her West African traditions handed down to them through generations. In addition to carrying on Gullah basketmaking traditions, Jackson is an innovator—creating new designs and adding contemporary elements. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a social activist and Baptist minister who played a key role in the American civil rights movement.

Let's create a weaving using Martin Luther King, Jr. quotes and Mary Jackson weaving techniques!

Supplies
Paper Dove, Paper Quote Strips, Scissors, Pen, Crayons, Glue

Project Instructions
1. Print out the dove drawing and the Martin Luther King, Jr. quotes.
2. Read the Martin Luther King, Jr. quotes and inspirational messages.
3. Color your peace dove with the crayons or other coloring materials.
4. You can use one or more of the Martin Luther King, Jr quotes in your design—write them around the dove or anywhere in your design.
5. Once you finish coloring, turn the paper over to the backside.
6. Fold paper in half the long way—making the folded paper 11 x 4 1/4 inches.
7. Draw 12 lines from the folded end, starting at about 3/4 inch from the left side. Each line should be about 3/4 inch apart, and leave 3/4 inch on the right side.
8. Do not draw lines to the end of the page—leave 1/2 inch from the bottom.
9. Using scissors, cut along each line (with paper folded in half). Do not cut to the end of the paper, just to the end of the line.
10. Unfold your paper, and turn it to the side with the dove drawing.
11. Look at some of the quotes. Decide which ones you would like to weave into your peace dove. You will need 8-10 strips.
12. Starting with one strip, start at the bottom of the paper—you can go right to left, or left to right, whichever direction is easiest. Take the strip OVER the first warp of paper, weaving under and over each section until you come to the end.
13. Take the next strip, and start it the OPPOSITE way, at the same end you started on with the first strip. This time, go under the first warp of paper, then over, and under, over and under until you get to the end.
14. Continue weaving your paper quote strips, starting the opposite way each time. Push the paper strips down as you weave, to get a tightly woven piece.
15. Arrange the strips so certain inspirational words stand out. You can highlight some of the words by coloring them.
16. Once you have finished your weaving, take the glue stick provided and glue down each end of each strip woven, so they stay in place.
17. You are finished, and your woven peace dove is complete!
Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation. Join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers. I have a dream that one day right there in Alabama little black boys and little black girls will be able to have a dream.

I say to you today, my friends, that in spite of the difficulties and frustrations of the moment, I still have a dream.

We are not makers of history. We are made by history. Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.

 Forgiveness is not an occasional act; it is a constant attitude. Hate! only love can do that.

Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out

The time is always right to do what is right.

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.
"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward."

"It is not enough to say we must not wage war. It is necessary to love peace and sacrifice for it."

"In intelligence plus character — that is the goal of true education."

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically."

"We must use time creatively, in the knowledge that time is always ripe to do right."

"We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope."

"Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hate."

"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 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."

"We will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream."

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"We will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream."
 „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!“

„When we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city…

„Those who are not looking for happiness are the most likely to find it, because those who are searching forget that the surest way to be happy is to seek happiness for others. A man who won’t die for something is not fit to live.

We must build dikes of courage to hold back the flood of fear.

„Let no man pull you so low as to hate him. „There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe nor political nor popular, but he must take it in conscience, tells him it is right.

„Everybody can be great… because anybody can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and web agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.“