

Mighty Times: The Children's March Questions

<u>Reading Standards for Informational Text</u> Key Ideas and Details (ELACC7RI)	
1	Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
2	Determine two or more central ideas in a text and analyze their development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.
3	Analyze the interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in a text (e.g., how ideas influence individuals or events, or how individuals influence ideas or events).
<u>Reading Standards for Informational Text</u> Craft and Structure (ELACC7RI)	
4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.
5	Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to the development of the ideas.
6	Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author distinguishes his or her position from that of others.
<u>Reading Standards for Informational Text</u> Integration of Knowledge and Ideas (ELACC7RI)	
7	Compare and contrast a text to an audio, video, or multimedia version of the text, analyzing each medium's portrayal of the subject (e.g., how the delivery of a speech affects the impact of the words).
8	Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims.
9	Analyze how two or more authors writing about the same topic shape their presentations of key information by emphasizing different evidence or advancing different interpretations of facts.

1. What was Birmingham's nickname and why?

2. Have you ever seen a white tank anywhere before? What might a white tank symbolize to white people? What might it symbolize to black people?

3. The film states, "Under Bull Connor, Birmingham was the closest thing in America to a police state." What is a police state?

4. Why couldn't the parents or adults protest? What would happen to them if they did protest?

5. What does it mean to "meet violence with nonviolence"? What would it look like?

6. Dr. King said in a strategy session that "the only way we're going to break Birmingham is to fill the jails." What do you think a strategy session is? Why is it important?

7. Why do you think that Dr. King said "no," at first, to kids going to jail?

8. Shelley "The Playboy" told the kids that "there's going to be a party in the park today."

What did he mean?

9. What did the children's teacher, Mrs. Goree, do to help them go to the march?

10. Kelly Ingram Park was the big green buffer between black Birmingham and the white downtown. Do buffers exist between groups in your community?

11. Gwen Webb says, "A lot of people thought the kids were going to get hurt, but the reality was that we were born black in Alabama and we were going to get hurt if we didn't do something." What did she mean by this?

12. The children left the church in "waves of 50." How is that a strategy? What do you think it accomplished?

13. The police thought the kids would be frightened to be arrested. Instead, they were happy and singing. Why do you think the kids were full of joy to be arrested?

14. Why were the kids told to say that they were 15 years old when they were arrested? Did it work?

15. How many men did it take to hold the fire hoses steady?

16. There were 10 kids still standing after everyone else had been knocked down or dispersed by the fire hoses. What were they singing?

17. What did President Kennedy think of the photographs he saw of children being hosed on the second day of the march?

18. What were the conditions in the jails? Were they clean? What did the children get to eat? How long were they kept in jail?

19. What did the kids do in jail?

20. How old was the youngest child who got arrested and put in jail?

21. Dr. King told the parents, "Don't worry about your children. They are going to be all right. Don't hold them back if they want to go to jail for they are doing a job for all of America and for all mankind." What job were they doing?

22. The white detective said that in the end there "was no way to hold a lid on this because the fear was gone." What is significant about people losing fear?

23. On May 10th Dr. King said that "we have come today to the climax of the long struggle for justice and human dignity." Had they?

24. On June 11th President Kennedy said "This is the end of segregation." Was it?