

ACROSS THE WORLD

Let's unscramble some of the island names from the Pacific Ocean. These islands are part of the Pacific Island nations, which are further categorized into three major groups: Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. Feel free to explore these beautiful islands on a map!

1. salhLrMa dnaslsl _____
2. ongTa _____
3. oCok lInadss _____
4. iFig _____
5. laauP _____
6. aWek sdaInls _____
7. aSmao _____
8. staEre sdIalsn _____
9. iiaaaHwn nslsDIa _____
10. aVuutan _____



**CULTURAL
AWARENESS**

**ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND
PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH**

OBSERVANCE

MAY



The Department of Defense pays tribute to the generations of **Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders** who have enriched our country through their countless triumphs, sacrifices, and important cultures and heritages.

ANSWER:

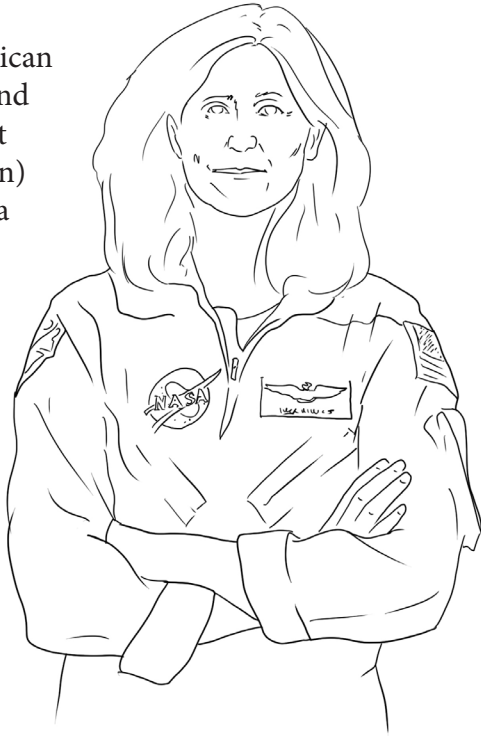
1. Marshall Islands 2. Tonga 3. Cook Islands 4. Fiji 5. Palau 6. Wake Islands 7. Samoa 8. Easter Islands 9. Hawaiian Islands 10. Vanuatu

Sunita Lyn Williams

(nicknamed Suni) is an American astronaut, U.S. Navy officer, and former record holder for most spacewalks by a woman (seven) and most spacewalk time for a woman (50 hours, 40 minutes).

In addition to her ground-breaking work in space she achieved another remarkable feat. On April 16, 2007, she made history by running the first marathon in space. As an entrant for the 2007 Boston Marathon, she completed the entire distance in an impressive four hours and 24 minutes

During the race, her fellow crew members cheered her on and even provided her with oranges. Meanwhile, back on Earth, her sister, Dina Pandya, and fellow astronaut Karen L. Nyberg also participated in the marathon. Williams stayed updated on their progress through communications with Mission Control.



THE KIWI

The humble little **kiwi** is a New Zealand treasure- so much so that residents were named after the iconic bird.

1. Kiwi cannot fly!

2. There are five types of kiwi: Brown Kiwi, Great Spotted Kiwi, Little Spotted Kiwi, Rowi, and Tokoeka.

3. Compared to the size of kiwi, their eggs are huge! A kiwi egg is approximately 20% of the female's body size.

4. After the female kiwi lays her egg, the male sits on the egg until it hatches.

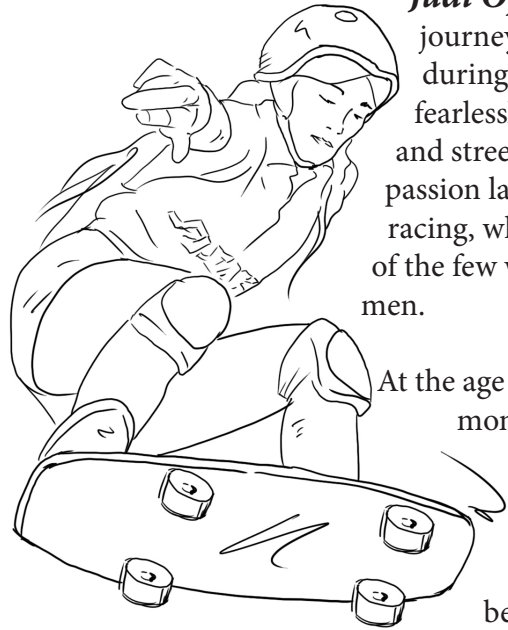
5. The kiwi bird can live up to 50 years!

6. Kiwi birds boast the tiniest beaks in the avian world. This unique feature arises from the way beak measurements are taken—from the nostrils to the tip of the beak.

7. Kiwi are nocturnal, meaning they are most active at night.

8. Kiwi birds mate for life. The male kiwi will follow the female around, grunting at her until she notices him- if she's interested, they will mate. If she's not, she will either run away or try and scare him off!





Judi Oyama's remarkable journey in skateboarding began during her teenage years. She fearlessly embraced both vertical and street skating, but her true passion lay in slalom and downhill racing, where she stood out as one of the few women competing against men.

At the age of 43, she achieved a momentous victory by winning the 2003 Slalom World Championships. Her skill and determination propelled her to be ranked second in the U.S. and first in the masters division overall in 2013.

In 2015, she made history as the first woman to receive the N-Men Icon Award, an honor bestowed upon influential Northern California skaters who have left an indelible mark on the sport.

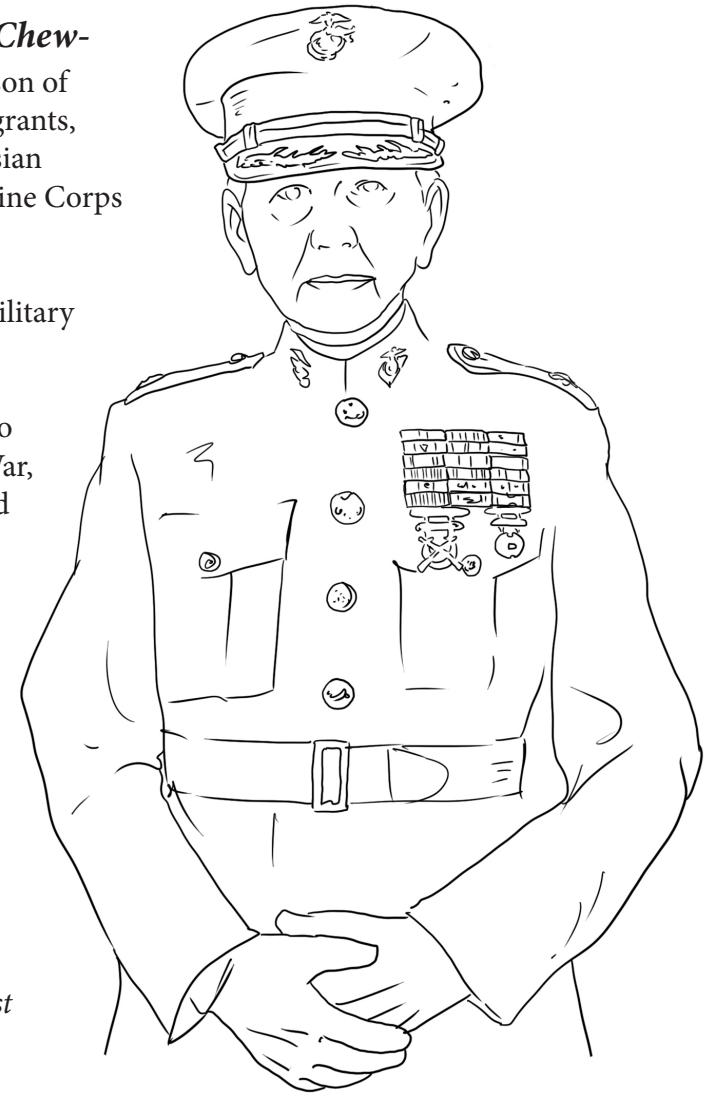
Beyond her accomplishments on the board, her commitment to giving back shines through her role as Vice President of Board Rescue. This nonprofit organization provides skateboards and safety equipment to underprivileged and at-risk kids, fostering their love for skateboarding and empowering them through the sport.

Judi Oyama's legacy is one of trailblazing athleticism, advocacy, and community impact.

Major Kurt Chew-Een Lee, the son of Chinese immigrants, was the first Asian American Marine Corps officer.

Through his military career, which spanned from World War II to the Vietnam War, he was awarded numerous medals for bravery.

When interviewed in 2010 about his distinguished military career and his bravery, Lee said, *"I am most proud of being able to train future generations of Marines."*



WHAT IS LEI DAY?

Lei Day is a cherished statewide celebration in Hawaii. Commencing on the morning of May 1st each year, it extends into the following day. This festive occasion was officially established as a holiday in 1929. What makes Lei Day truly special is that each of the Hawaiian islands has its own unique type of lei for people to wear during the festivities.

Here's a glimpse of the lei associated with each island:

The Big Island (Hawaii): The red blossoms of the Ohia tree, known as lehua blossoms, represent this island.

Maui: The Lokelani flower, delicate and pink, symbolizes the beauty of Maui.

Oahu: The Ilima flower, with its golden hue, graces the island.

Molokai: The Kukui tree provides green lei made from its leaves.

Lanai: The Kauna'oa, a grassy flower with a sunny yellow color, is unique to Lanai.

Kahoolawe: The Hinahina, with its silver-gray hue, represents this island.

Kauai: The mokihana flowers, green and fragrant, are synonymous with Kauai.

Niihau: Interestingly, Niihau's "flower" is not a botanical one but rather shells called Pupū.

So, on Lei Day, Hawaiians come together to celebrate their vibrant culture, adorned in these beautiful lei, each carrying the essence of their island.

