Name: _____ Date: _____

ELLEN OCHOA



Read the biography of Ellen Ochoa and answer the comprehension questions using the passage for reference.

Ellen Ochoa (born 1958) was born in Los Angeles, California. She grew up loving science and math and worked very hard in school. Ellen went to college at San Diego State University, where she studied physics, and then went on to earn a doctorate in electrical engineering from Stanford University.

Ellen Ochoa became an astronaut in 1991. She was the first Hispanic woman to go to space. In 1993, she flew on the space shuttle Discovery. During her time in space, she conducted important research and experiments. Ellen flew on four space missions and spent nearly 1,000 hours in space.

Ellen is also an inventor and holds several patents for her work in engineering. Her inventions have helped improve technology used in space exploration and other fields. She has worked on optical systems that can detect flaws in other systems and devices that enhance image quality.

After her time as an astronaut, Ellen Ochoa continued to work for NASA. She became the Director of the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, where she helped lead the team that trains astronauts and manages space missions. Ellen's leadership at NASA has inspired many young people to pursue careers in science and engineering.

Ellen Ochoa has received many awards for her contributions to science and space exploration. She often speaks to students about the importance of education and following their dreams. She encourages young people to study hard and believe in themselves. Ellen's story shows that with hard work and determination, you can achieve great things, no matter where you come from.

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 What is Ellen Ochoa known for being the first Hispanic woman to do?

2 What role did Ellen Ochoa take on after being an astronaut?

3 Why is Ellen Ochoa's story inspirational?

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