Name: _____ Date: _____

MAYA ANGELOU



Read the biographical passage about Maya Angelou and answer the questions.

Maya Angelou (1928 – 2014) was an American writer, poet, and speaker. She was born in St. Louis, Missouri, and given the name Marguerite Johnson. Growing up, Maya faced many challenges. She lived in a time when people were treated unfairly because of their skin color, and she had to learn to stand strong against these unfair rules.

When Maya was eight years old, she went through something very scary and sad that made her stop talking. But Maya found comfort and joy in reading books and discovering the power of words. She read all kinds of books, from fairy tales to poetry, and she started to write her own stories and poems.

As she got older, Maya's voice became louder and clearer. She shared her stories with the world in her book "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings." This book talks about her childhood and how she overcame her fears to speak out for what is right. Maya's words were like a song that could make people feel hope and courage.

Maya Angelou didn't just write books. She also gave speeches, taught at universities, and even helped leaders who wanted to make America a fairer place for everyone. She was like a teacher to the whole country, teaching about love, kindness, and the importance of treating all people with respect. Maya Angelou's life was a bright light that continues to shine. She taught us that no matter what we go through, our voices can be powerful tools for change.

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 What did Maya do when she stopped speaking, and how did it help her?

2 What is the title of Maya Angelou's famous book, and what story does it tell?

3 Besides writing, what other ways did Maya Angelou help teach and inspire people?

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

BILLIE JEAN KING



Read the biographical passage about Billie Jean King and answer the questions.

Billie Jean King is a hero both on and off the tennis court. She was born in California and loved sports from a very young age. Billie Jean wasn't just any athlete; she became one of the greatest tennis players of all time!

Billie Jean won a lot of tennis matches, including 39 Grand Slam titles. That's a huge deal because Grand Slam tournaments are some of the most important competitions in tennis. But what makes Billie Jean even more special is how she fought for women to be treated fairly in sports and everywhere else.

A long time ago, women tennis players didn't earn as much money as men, even when they worked just as hard. Billie Jean thought this was wrong, so she stood up and said something about it. She played in a famous tennis match called the "Battle of the Sexes" against a man named Bobby Riggs. Many people watched this match, and Billie Jean won! This victory was about more than just a tennis game; it showed the world that women are strong and deserve equal respect and pay.

Billie Jean didn't stop there. She helped start a special tennis tour for women, making sure female athletes could earn a living from playing sports. She also worked to make it easier for girls and boys to play sports in school, helping pass a law called Title IX. This law says that girls and boys should have the same chances to play sports and do other activities at school.

Billie Jean King teaches us all a valuable lesson: it's important to stand up for what you believe in and to treat everyone equally, no matter if they're a boy or a girl. She showed that with hard work and courage, you can change the world for the better.

Use the image

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Who is Billie Jean King, and what sport did she play?

2 How did Billie Jean King help women in sports?

3 What lesson can we learn from Billie Jean King about equality and fairness?

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

CHARLOTTE BRONTË



Read the biographical passage about Charlotte Brontë and answer the questions.

Charlotte Brontë lived a long time ago in England, in a big family with lots of brothers and sisters. She loved making up stories and playing with words, even when she was just a little girl like you. Charlotte lived in a big, old house that seemed like it was straight out of a fairy tale, filled with secrets and adventures waiting to be discovered.

Charlotte wrote a famous book called "Jane Eyre". It's a story about a girl who, just like Charlotte, had a big imagination and dreamed of doing great things. Charlotte wrote her book to show that girls are strong, smart, and can be heroes in their stories. She wanted everyone to know that it's okay to be different and to stand up for what you believe in.

Even though Charlotte lived in a time when it was hard for women to be writers, she didn't let that stop her. She used a pretend name, Currer Bell, so people would read her book without worrying if it was written by a girl or a boy. Charlotte showed everyone that what you write is more important than whether you are a boy or a girl.
Charlotte's stories are still read by children and grown-ups all over the world. She taught us that with imagination and courage, you can create your own adventures and maybe even write your own book one day!

Use the Vintage

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 What is special about Charlotte's book, "Jane Eyre"?

2 Why did Charlotte use a pretend name, and what does it teach us?

3 What can we learn from Charlotte Brontë about following our dreams?

Use the village

Name: _____ Date: _____

MARIE ANTOINETTE



Read the biographical passage about Marie Antoinette and answer the questions.

Marie Antoinette was a queen of France, born on November 2, 1755, in Austria. She moved to France to marry a French prince, who would become king, making her a queen. Marie Antoinette lived in a huge, fancy palace called Versailles and wore the most beautiful dresses. But while she had a life of luxury, many people in France were very poor and didn't have enough food.

There's a famous story that says when Marie Antoinette heard that people had no bread to eat, she said, "Let them eat cake!" But historians think she probably never said this. The story was likely made up to make people not like her. It's important to remember that sometimes stories get changed and may not be true.

During a time called the French Revolution, when people wanted to change how the country was run, Marie Antoinette and her family faced big problems. Sadly, this story doesn't have a happy ending for her. The queen was put to death in 1793 because people were angry about how the country was being run.

Even though the cake story might not be real, it teaches us to think about how we understand and tell stories from the past. We learn that it's really important to be kind and try to understand everyone's situation, especially when times are tough.

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Why is the story of "Let them eat cake" famous, even if it's not true?

2 What can we learn from Marie Antoinette's life about how we treat others?

3 Can you think of a way to help someone who is going through a difficult time?

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

SACAGAWEA



Read the biographical passage about Sacagawea and answer the questions.

Sacagawea (1788 – 1812) was a Native American woman known for her vital role in the Lewis and Clark expedition. Born into the Lemhi Shoshone tribe in what is now Idaho, Sacagawea faced many hardships early in life. One of the hardest moments was when she was taken from her home as a young girl. This was a wrong and unfair act, something that should never happen to anyone. Despite this, Sacagawea's strength and spirit shone through in later years.

In 1805, Sacagawea became an important member of the Lewis and Clark team. Her deep knowledge of the land, skills in finding food, and ability to communicate with other Native American tribes were key to the expedition's success. She helped guide the explorers through unknown territories and played a crucial role in building peaceful relationships with the Native American tribes they met. All this time, she cared for her baby son, Jean Baptiste, showing incredible courage and resilience.

Sacagawea's journey with Lewis and Clark is a story of triumph over adversity. She showed that even in difficult circumstances, one can make a significant difference. Today, we remember Sacagawea as a hero who contributed greatly to the exploration of the American West, teaching us valuable lessons about bravery, kindness, and the importance of understanding different cultures.

Use the Image

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Who was Sacagawea, and what challenge did she face as a young girl?

2 Why was Sacagawea important to the Lewis and Clark expedition?

3 What does Sacagawea's story teach us about overcoming difficulties and making a positive impact?

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

MALALA YOUSAFZAI



Read the biographical passage about Malala Yousafzai and answer the questions.

Malala Yousafzai was born on July 12, 1997, in Mingora, Pakistan. Even when she was young, just like you, Malala loved going to school and learning new things. But in her hometown, a group called the Taliban didn't want girls to go to school or learn. This made Malala very sad because she knew that every girl and boy deserves to learn and dream about their future.

Malala believed so strongly in education that she started to speak out, even though it was dangerous. She said that it wasn't fair to stop girls from learning and that everyone should have the chance to go to school. Malala wanted the whole world to know how important it is for children to be educated.

Because she was trying to make things better, Malala faced a very scary situation. The Taliban tried to stop her by hurting her, but Malala was incredibly strong and survived. After recovering, she didn't hide away. Instead, she spoke to even more people all over the world, telling them about the right to education and how important it is for girls and boys everywhere.

For her bravery, Malala won the Nobel Peace Prize when she was just 17 years old, making her the youngest person ever to receive this honor. She continues to fight for education and inspires many people, showing that you're never too young to stand up for what you believe in. Malala teaches us that with courage and determination, we can overcome challenges and work towards a better world for everyone.

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 What does Malala Yousafzai believe in?

2 How did Malala continue her mission after recovering?

3 What can we learn from Malala about making a difference?

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

SIMONE BILES



Read the biographical passage about Simone Biles and answer the questions.

Simone Biles was born on March 14, 1997, in Columbus, Ohio, and she's a shining star in the world of gymnastics. When Simone was a young girl, she discovered her love for gymnastics. She started practicing jumps and flips, dedicating herself to becoming the best. Because of her dedication, Simone grew up to win many competitions and become known all over the world.

Simone Biles is not like any other gymnast. She performs moves that are so hard, very few gymnasts even try them! Some of these amazing moves are named after her, like the "Biles" on the floor exercise, which shows just how special they are. By the end of 2024, Simone had won 23 World Championship gold medals and 7 Olympic gold medals.

But Simone teaches us something very important—taking care of our minds is as crucial as taking care of our bodies. Even though she's a strong athlete, she's been brave to talk about feeling scared or nervous and taking breaks when she needs to. This has helped many people understand that it's okay to speak up about how we're feeling inside.

Aside from being an incredible athlete, Simone Biles is a role model. She teaches kids everywhere that achieving your dreams takes hard work and practice. But she also shows that being truly strong means listening to your heart and taking care of your mind. Simone's story encourages us to leap for our dreams, be brave, and always remember to be kind to ourselves and others.

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 How did Simone Biles start her journey in gymnastics?

2 What is the name of the floor exercise move mentioned in the passage?

3 What lessons can we learn from Simone Biles about achieving our dreams and taking care of ourselves?

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

ANNE FRANK



Read the biographical passage about Anne Frank and answer the questions.

Anne Frank was a young girl with a big heart and a hopeful spirit, born on June 12, 1929, in Frankfurt, Germany. During a very scary time called World War II, Anne and her family had to hide because they were Jewish, and it was very dangerous for Jewish people. They hid in a secret part of a building in Amsterdam, thanks to kind, brave people who wanted to help them.

Anne spent two years in hiding, and during this time, she wrote in her diary. She wrote about her feelings, her family, and her dreams for a future where everyone could live in peace. Her diary has become very famous because it shares her story of courage and hope with the world.

Sadly, Anne's story doesn't have a happy ending. Despite their efforts to stay hidden, Anne and her family were discovered. They were taken away, and Anne did not survive. But her diary did, and it's a powerful reminder of the goodness and strength that can be found in all of us, even in the darkest times.

Anne Frank's legacy teaches us to be kind, to stand up against what is wrong, and to always have hope. Her words continue to inspire people everywhere to work towards a world filled with kindness and understanding.

Use the Village

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 What challenges did Anne Frank and her family face during World War II?

2 How did Anne use her diary during her time in hiding?

3 Why is Anne Frank's story so important to remember?

Use the Village

MAYA ANGELOU

