Name _____ Date _____



Native Lives

Read about two Native Americans. Then answer the questions.

Sacagawea (Lemhi Shoshone)

Sacagawea was a young Lemhi Shoshone woman. Her own people spell her name Sacajawea. In the spring of 1805, she set out west with the Lewis and Clark expedition. She carried her baby son the whole way. She spoke Shoshone, so she helped the expedition talk with the Shoshone people. They needed horses to cross the mountains, and she helped them trade for some. The Shoshone leader was her own brother! Today Sacagawea is on a dollar coin.

1. Sacagawea carried her baby son on the journey. **true** **false**

2. She helped the expedition trade for ____ **gold** **horses** **boats**

Susan La Flesche Picotte (Omaha)

When **Susan La Flesche** was a girl, she saw a sick woman die. A doctor had been called, but he never came. Susan decided to be a doctor herself. In 1889, she finished medical school. She was the first Native American woman to do so. She went home to care for the Omaha people. She rode for miles, even in the snow, to see the sick. In 1913, she opened a hospital in Nebraska.

3. She chose to be a doctor after a doctor did not come for a sick woman. **true** **false**

4. She cared for the ____ people. **Navajo** **Omaha** **Osage**

5. Which of these two people would you like to meet? Why?

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Name _____ Date _____



Native Lives

Read about two Native Americans. Then answer the questions.

Jim Thorpe (Sac and Fox)

Jim Thorpe was a great athlete. At the 1912 Olympics, he won two gold medals. Each of his events was many track and field contests in one. A year later, his medals were taken away. He had once been paid to play baseball, and that was not allowed. Thorpe went on to play football and baseball for pay. In 1982, long after he died, he was named a champion again. In 1983, his family got copies of his medals. In 2022, he was named the only winner of both events.

1. Thorpe was named a champion again while he was alive. **true** **false**

2. His medals were taken away because he had been paid to play ___ **soccer** **baseball** **football**

Maria Tallchief (Osage)

Maria Tallchief was born on Osage land in Fairfax, Oklahoma, and lived there until she was eight. As a girl, she played the piano and danced. She grew up to be one of the best ballet dancers in the world. She was the first American prima ballerina. That means she was the star dancer of a ballet company. In 1949, she danced The Firebird in New York. She leaped across the stage like a bird of fire.

3. Maria Tallchief was a famous ___ **dancer** **pilot** **doctor**

4. A prima ballerina is the star dancer of a ballet company. **true** **false**

5. How were Jim Thorpe and Maria Tallchief alike?

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Name _____ Date _____



Native Lives

Read about two Native Americans. Then answer the questions.

Mary Golda Ross (Cherokee)

Mary Golda Ross was a gifted math student. In 1942, she went to work at a company that built airplanes. She was the first known Native American woman engineer. Later she helped plan trips into space. Her great-great-grandfather was John Ross, a famous Cherokee chief. In 2019, her picture was put on a dollar coin.

1. Mary Golda Ross was an ____ **artist** **athlete** **engineer**

2. Mary Golda Ross was the first Native American astronaut. **true** **false**

John Herrington (Chickasaw)

In November 2002, **John Herrington** flew into space. He rode on the space shuttle Endeavour. He was the first member of a Native American nation to go to space. On the trip, he walked in space three times. He worked outside the space station. He took a flag of the Chickasaw Nation with him.

3. John Herrington flew into space in ____ **1912** **1805** **2002**

4. He walked in space ____ times. **ten** **three** **two**

5. How was Mary Golda Ross's work on space different from John Herrington's?

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Name _____ Date _____



Native Lives

Who am I? Draw a line from each clue to the person.

Clue	Who am I?
I helped the expedition trade for horses, and my brother was a Shoshone leader.	Mary Golda Ross
I rode miles in the snow to care for my patients.	Sacagawea
I won two Olympic gold medals in 1912.	Maria Tallchief
I danced The Firebird in New York in 1949.	John Herrington
I was good at math and helped plan trips into space.	Jim Thorpe
I carried a Chickasaw flag into space.	Susan La Flesche Picotte

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Name _____ Date _____



Native Lives

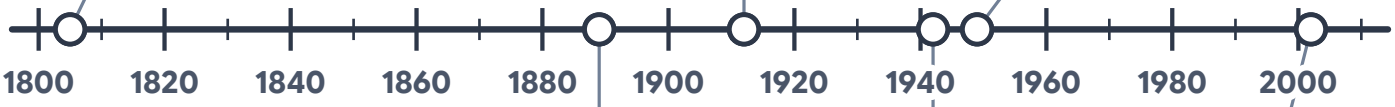
Write the year of each event. Then answer the questions.

Years: **1805** **1889** **1912** **1942** **1949** **2002**

Sacagawea sets out with the expedition. ☐

Jim Thorpe wins two gold medals. ☐

Maria Tallchief dances The Firebird. ☐



Susan La Flesche becomes a doctor. ☐

Mary Golda Ross starts work on airplanes. ☐

John Herrington goes to space. ☐

1. How many years after Jim Thorpe's gold medals did Maria Tallchief dance The Firebird? _____ years

2. How many years after Sacagawea set out with the expedition did Susan La Flesche become a doctor? _____ years

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Name _____ Date _____



Native Lives

Plan a short biography of one of these people.

Choose one person from these pages, or another Native American you want to learn about.

Name and nation

When and where they lived

What they did

Why it matters

A question I would ask them

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3. She chose to be a doctor after a doctor did not come for a sick woman. **true** **false**

4. She cared for the ____ people. **Navajo** **Omaha** **Osage**

5. Which of these two people would you like to meet? Why?

Susan La Flesche, because she helped so many sick people.

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Native Lives

Read about two Native Americans. Then answer the questions.

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3. Maria Tallchief was a famous ____ **dancer** **pilot** **doctor**

4. A prima ballerina is the star dancer of a ballet company. **true** **false**

5. How were Jim Thorpe and Maria Tallchief alike?

They were both among the best in the world at what they did.

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Native Lives

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4. He walked in space ____ times. **ten** **three** **two**

5. How was Mary Golda Ross's work on space different from John Herrington's?

Ross helped plan trips into space, and Herrington flew into space himself.

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Native Lives

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I won two Olympic gold medals in 1912.	Jim Thorpe
I danced The Firebird in New York in 1949.	Maria Tallchief
I was good at math and helped plan trips into space.	John Herrington
I carried a Chickasaw flag into space.	Mary Golda Ross

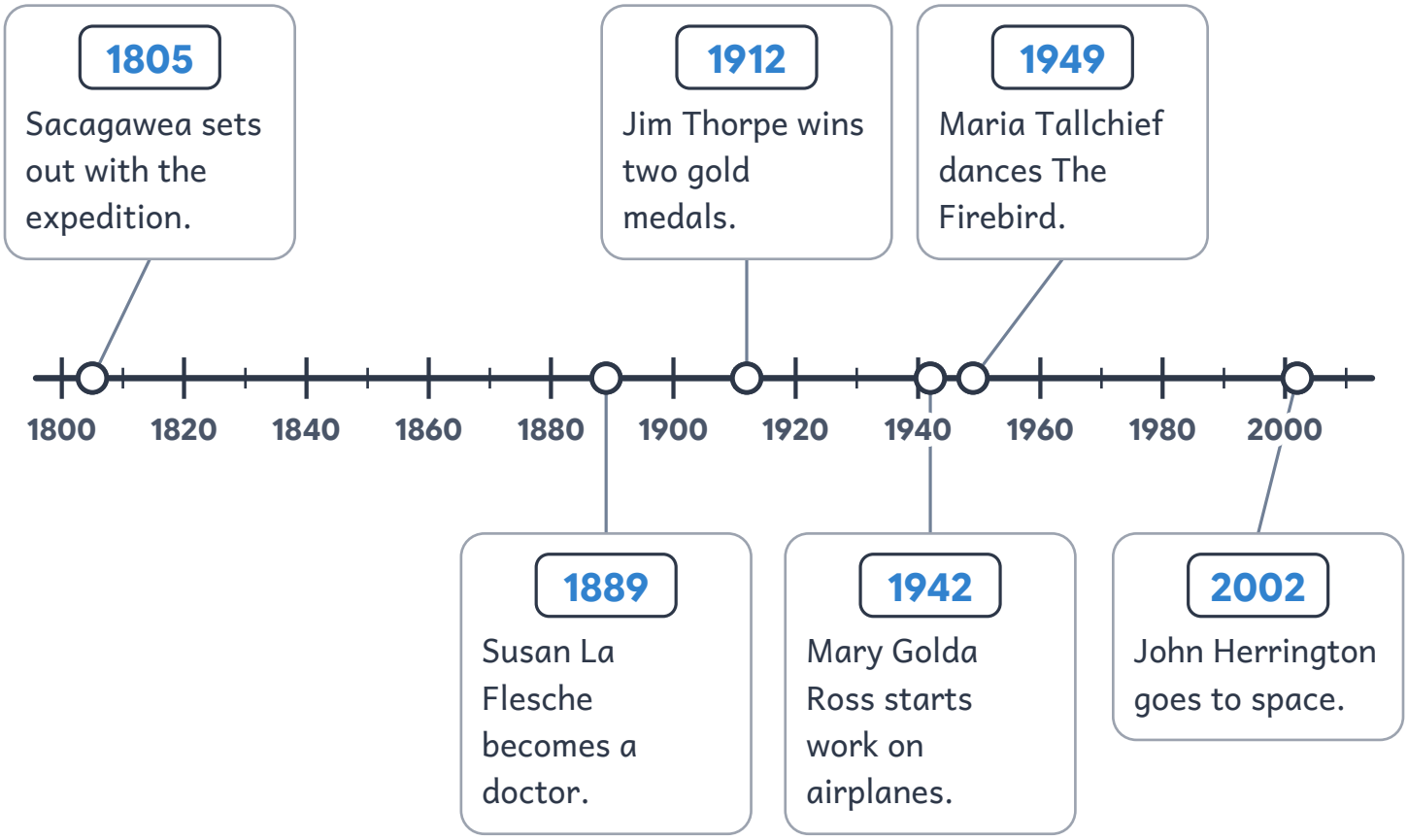
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Native Lives

Write the year of each event. Then answer the questions.

Years: 1805 1889 1912 1942 1949 2002



1. How many years after Jim Thorpe's gold medals did Maria Tallchief dance The Firebird?

37 years

2. How many years after Sacagawea set out with the expedition did Susan La Flesche become a doctor?

84 years

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