

Awards and Honors

To discover if the following statements are TRUE or FALSE, do the math. TRUE statements will have an even-numbered answer. FALSE statements will have an odd-numbered answer.

Katherine Johnson was given a flag that had gone to the moon. ($18 + 4 =$)

TRUE FALSE

A building is named after her at NASA's Research Center in Virginia. ($24 - 6 =$)

TRUE FALSE

Katherine Johnson won a gold medal in the 1960 Winter Olympics. ($3 + 2 =$)

TRUE FALSE

President Obama gave her the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2015 when she was 97. ($28 - 8 =$)

TRUE FALSE

She saw her story brought to light through the book and movie *Hidden Figures*. ($4 + 4 + 4 =$)

TRUE FALSE

Katherine Johnson graduated college at the age of 18, the age most people graduate high school. ($6 + 4 + 4 =$)

TRUE FALSE

As a young student, Katherine would complete her homework and then help her older siblings with their homework. ($15 + 5 =$)

TRUE FALSE

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Katherine G. Johnson: The Human Computer



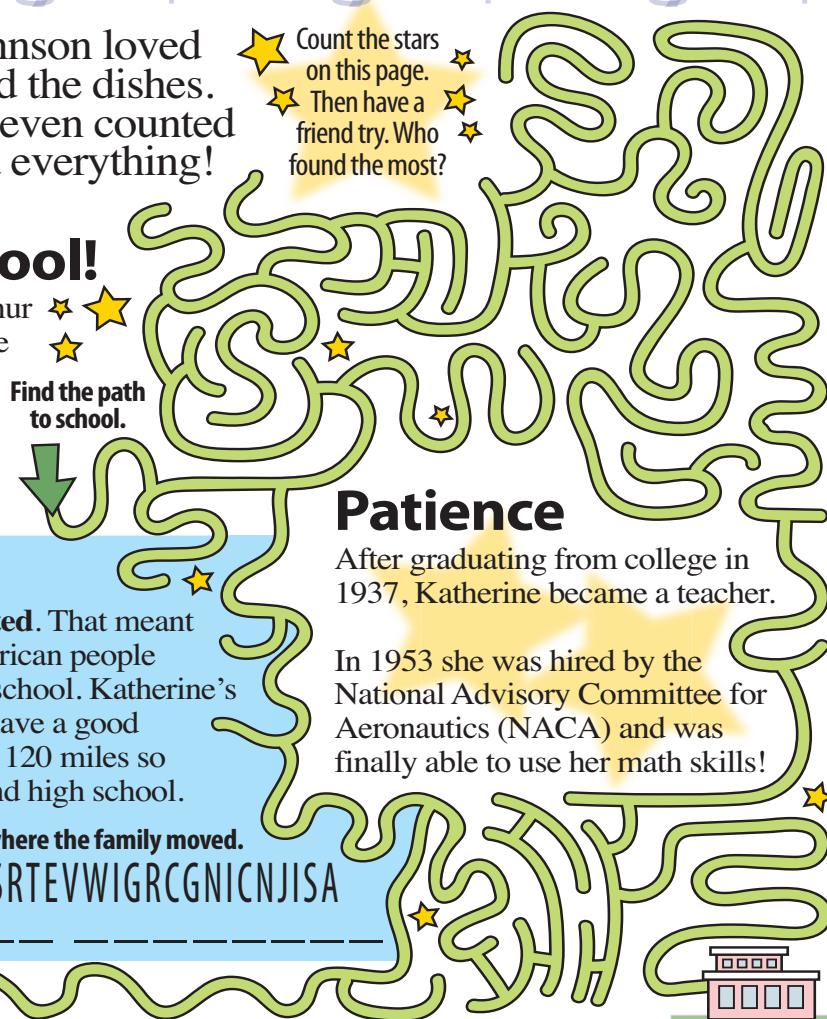
As a child, Katherine Johnson loved to count. She counted the dishes. She counted the steps. She even counted stones. She simply counted everything!

Count the stars on this page. Then have a friend try. Who found the most?

Let Me Go to School!

Katherine was born in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. She was the youngest of four children and she couldn't wait to join her siblings at school! She used to follow them as they walked to school.

Find the path to school.



Patience

After graduating from college in 1937, Katherine became a teacher.

In 1953 she was hired by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) and was finally able to use her math skills!

Hard Work

Katherine said it was hard work to be good at math and her other subjects. And work hard she did. She skipped two grades in elementary school, and went on to get degrees in mathematics and French.

Determination

Katherine's community was **segregated**. That meant there were many places African-American people couldn't go, including the local high school. Katherine's parents were so determined that she have a good education that they moved the family 120 miles so Katherine and her siblings could attend high school.

Circle every other letter to discover where the family moved.

KIDNUSWTVIBTCUZNEMWQEFSTRTEVWIGRCGNICNJISA

- ▲ = A
- = D
- ★ = E
- ✕ = H
- ◻ = L
- = N
- ◼ = P
- ◽ = R
- ☑ = S

Curiosity

Because of her intelligence, curiosity, and positive attitude, Katherine was asked to work on many different projects. When NACA turned its attention to space flight, it changed its name to NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration).

Katherine was asked to work on the complicated math problems that would establish the flight path for the spacecraft that would take the first American into space and back in 1961. Use the code to discover his name.



The Human Computer

In 1953, computers were not as good as they are today and mathematicians, who were called "computers," did the math needed for flight research.



How fast did *Friendship 7* travel in its 4 hour and 56 minute flight? Do the math!

$$\begin{array}{r} 5,500 \\ + 6,000 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

miles per hour

Count the Numbers

Take one page of the newspaper and circle all of the numbers you can find. Then, count the number of numbers! What do the different numbers show?

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

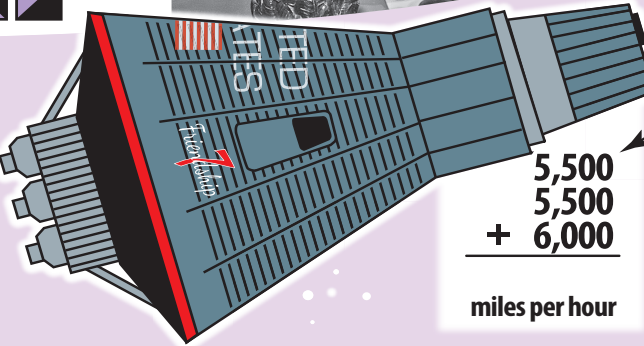
Persistence

Replace the missing words.

When Katherine was _____ at NASA, women were not allowed in the spaceflight meetings. She kept _____ if she could go, even asking if there was a _____ against it. Her persistence paid off and she was finally invited to attend all _____.

Over time, even though electronic _____ took on more work at NASA, Johnson remained highly valued for her accuracy. She performed calculations for John Glenn's successful orbits _____.

COMPUTERS LAW
MOON ASKING MEETINGS HOME WORKING



around Earth in *Friendship 7* in 1962, as well as the Apollo 11 and 13 flights to the _____.

Working on these manned flight paths was stressful. Katherine knew that if her calculations were off by even a few feet or seconds, the astronauts might not make it _____!

Standards Link: Students use strategies to understand literary passages

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Humility

Katherine won many awards and made history for the space program, for women's rights and for racial equality. But she always remained humble. She quoted her father. Replace the vowels to find out what her father would tell her.

"Y__ AR_ AS G__D
AS __NYB_DY. B_T
Y__'RE N_ B__TT_R."

Standards Link: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

- KATHERINE
- CURIOSITY
- POSITIVE
- ACCURACY
- COMPUTER
- COUNTED
- DISHES
- ORBIT
- SPACE
- STEPS
- WHITE
- MATH
- PATH
- FOUR

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

D	K	S	P	A	C	E	W	E	A
E	W	H	I	T	E	V	N	R	C
T	Y	T	I	S	O	I	R	U	C
N	M	B	A	D	R	T	T	O	U
U	R	P	H	E	I	E	F	R	
O	M	A	H	A	T	S	I	E	A
C	H	T	A	M	I	O	H	A	C
N	A	H	S	T	E	P	S	E	Y
K	R	E	T	U	P	M	O	C	S

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **PERSISTENCE**

The noun **persistence** means to keep working at something in spite of difficulties or obstacles.

With persistence, the volunteers were able to clean the creek.

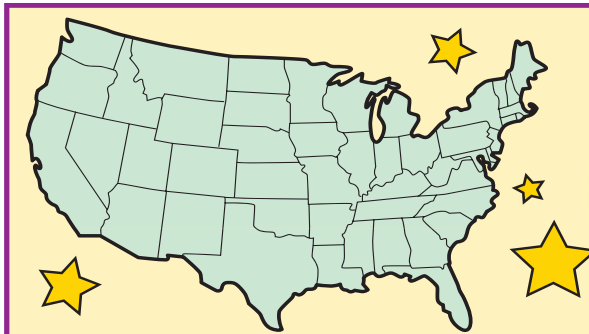
Use the word **persistence** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Find a Story of Character

Katherine Johnson had many character traits that led to her successes. Look through the newspaper for an article about a successful person and make a list of character traits that help to make that person so successful.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.



What State has the most math teachers?

ANSWER: MATHACHUSETTS!

Write On!

Mission Possible

If it were possible to be anything in the world, what would you want to be? What would you do if this happened to come true?

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