



# The Mini Page

Issue 44, 2024

Founded by Betty Debnam

**Next Week:**  
Geography Awareness Week



Each Nov. 11, we celebrate Veterans Day. The U.S. Congress approved the holiday in 1938: "a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as Armistice Day." In 1954, the name was changed to Veterans Day. ("Armistice" means a temporary stopping of acts of war.)

This week, The Mini Page examines the many honors that are awarded to members of the military for their service.

## Medal of Honor

The U.S. Army, Navy (including the Marine Corps and Coast Guard) and Air Force each award a Medal of Honor. As the highest military decoration in our country, it is given for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty."

**Word Break:** Look up *conspicuous*, *gallantry* and *intrepidity* in the dictionary.

- More than 3,500 servicemembers have received the Medal of Honor.
- Theodore Roosevelt (right) is the only president to have received the Medal of Honor, for his service during the Spanish-American War. It was awarded **posthumously**, or after his death, in 2001.



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## Distinguished Service Cross

The Distinguished Service Cross is the U.S. Army's second-highest honor. It is awarded for extraordinary heroism while "engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States."

The other branches award the Navy Cross, the Air Force Cross and the Coast Guard Cross.

- During World War I, more than 6,300 medals were awarded.
- Gen. Richard Cavazos, the first Hispanic four-star general of the U.S. Army, received the honor twice, in 1953 and 1967.

## Silver Star

The Silver Star is the military's third-highest combat decoration. It is awarded for gallantry in action. The medal was originally called the Citation Star.

- Three U.S. Army nurses who served in World War I — Jane Rignel, Linnie Leckrone and Irene Robar — were awarded the Citation Star in 1919 and 1920.
- Former Sen. John McCain of Arizona received the U.S. Navy's Silver Star Medal.



U.S. Army Distinguished Service Cross



U.S. Army Silver Star

## Purple Heart

The Purple Heart is the oldest military honor. Once called the Badge of Military Merit, it was established by Gen. George Washington in 1782.

Recipients of the award are those who have been wounded or killed serving in any of the armed forces.

• Sen. Tammy Duckworth of Illinois is a recipient of the Purple Heart. She served in Iraq in 2004, where she lost both her legs.

• Almost 2 million Purple Hearts have been awarded; over 1 million of those were during World War II.

## Bronze Star Medal

The Bronze Star is awarded by the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force and Department of Homeland Security. It honors those who have demonstrated heroic or meritorious achievement or service.

• Civilians who are serving with military forces in combat, such as journalists, are also eligible for the award.



Sen. Tammy Duckworth



U.S. Bronze Star Medal

## Resources



### On the Web:

- [bit.ly/MPmilitaryawards](https://bit.ly/MPmilitaryawards)

### At the library:

- "We Also Served: True Stories of Brave Animals in the Military" by Erin McGill

## Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of military honors are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



AIR FORCE, ARMISTICE, ARMY, AWARD, BRONZE, COAST GUARD, CONGRESS, CROSS, DAY, GALLANTRY, HEART, HONOR, MILITARY, NAVY, POSTHUMOUSLY, SERVICE, SILVER, STAR, VETERANS.

Y M Q C O A S T G U A R D V F  
R R E V L I S G M E Z N O R B  
T S Z T F E C R O F R I A D H  
N S N I Q Y R A T I L I M R E  
A T D A A R M I S T I C E A A  
L A A B R S S E R G N O C W R  
L R Y S T E Y R O N O H C A T  
A D Q P O S T H U M O U S L Y  
G I E C I V R E S S O R C S  
B Y V A N S L O V Y M R A C J

## Mini Spy Classics

Mini Spy and her friends are looking at military planes at a flight museum. See if you can find the hidden pictures. Then color the picture.



Mini Spy Classics appear in the first issue of each month.

Based on materials originally produced and/or created by Betty Debnam.

- duck
- fish
- bell
- pencil
- letter A
- key
- sailboat
- lima bean
- letter D
- ladder
- doughnut
- safety pin
- man in the moon
- saw
- needle
- letter V
- question mark

## Mini Jokes



**Fiona:** Why can't you tell secrets on a farm?

**Farley:** Because the corn has ears!

## Eco Note



Climate change appears to be driving a shift in jet streams toward the poles, according to researchers at University College London. In the Northern Hemisphere, this shift could lead to dramatic changes in weather patterns from the western United States to the Mediterranean. Researchers found that the wintertime polar jet stream above the North Pacific has moved northward by 18 to 50 miles per decade since 1980. However, they pointed out that jet streams in some regions have not moved at all, while others are drifting toward the equator.

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## For later:

Look in your newspaper for events celebrating Veterans Day.

**Teachers:** Follow and interact with The Mini Page on Facebook!



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**KidSpot** by Dan Thompson 11-2

Erin, Abby and Kat each have a favorite kind of donut. The first girl likes jelly-filled, the second girl likes chocolate-frosted and the third girl likes donut holes. The following clues can tell you each girl's favorite kind of donut.

Erin likes either jelly-filled or chocolate-frosted donuts. Abby likes donut holes, but Kat doesn't like donut holes, nor does she like chocolate frosted.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

ANS: 1. KAT, 2. ERIN, 3. ABBY.

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