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INDIGENOUS

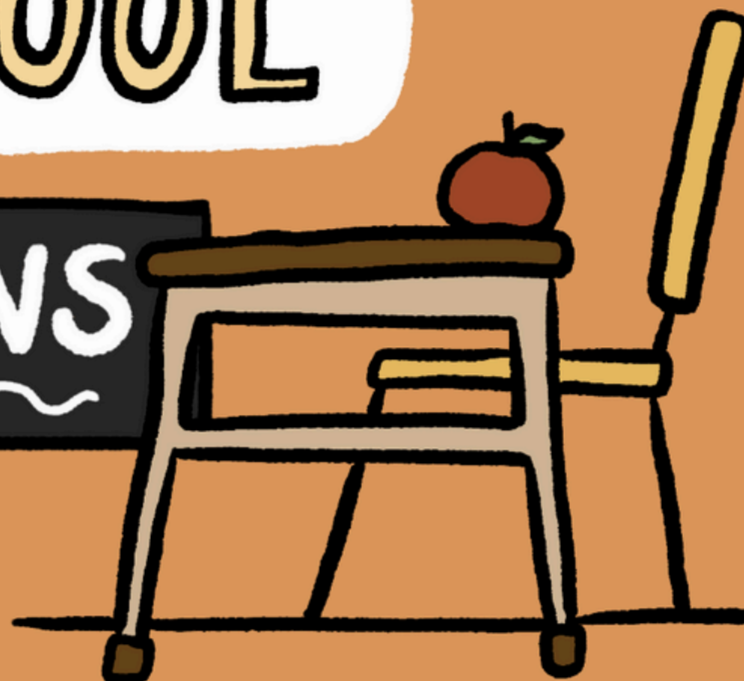
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YOU SHOULD HAVE LEARNED

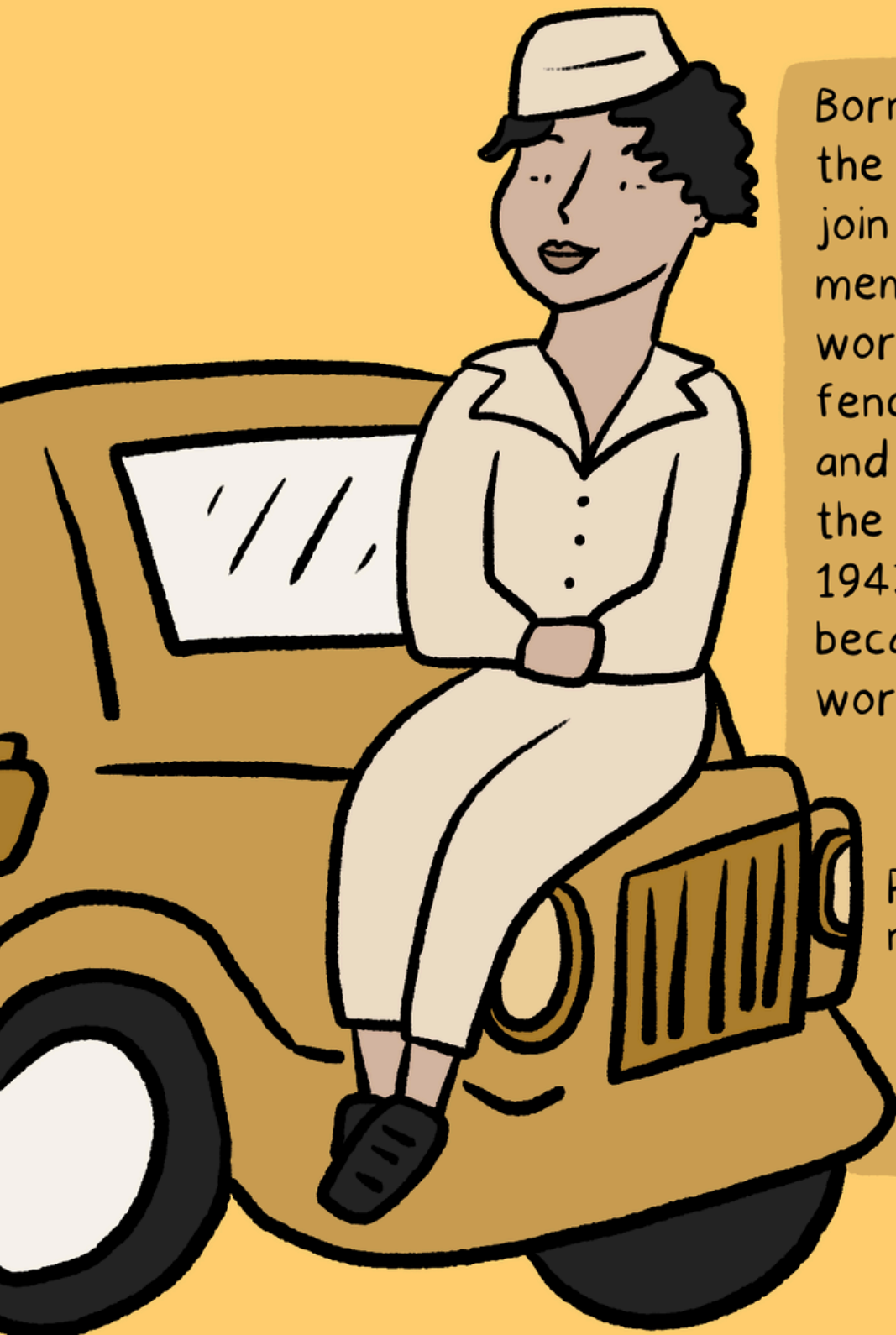
IN SCHOOL

VETERANS

edition



MINNIE SPOTTED WOLF



Born in 1923, Minnie Spotted Wolf was the first Native American woman to join the U.S. Marine Corps. As a member of the Blackfoot tribe, she worked on her father's ranch, cutting fence posts, driving a two ton truck, and breaking horses. Upon enlisting in the Marine Corps Women's Reserve in 1943, she encountered resistance because she was a woman. She worked as a heavy equipment operator and driver, helping to rebuild Pearl Harbor. Her skills and pioneering status earned her nicknames like the "Bronc-Busting Indian Queen." After being discharged, she spent 29 years as teacher.



DR JOSEPH MEDICINE CROW

Born on November 27, 1913, on the Crow Indian Reservation, Dr. Joseph Medicine Crow was a WWII hero who achieved four traditional war coups, including leading a mission under fire, taking a German soldier's rifle, and stealing horses from an enemy camp. After the war, he became the first Crow Tribe member to earn a master's degree and received three honorary PhDs. Although the "Dr. Joseph Medicine Crow Congressional Gold Medal Act" didn't pass, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2009 by President Barack Obama.

NAVAJO CODE TALKERS



During WWI and WWII, code talkers were military personnel who used their knowledge of Native American languages to send secret messages during war time. In 1942, the Marine Corps leadership selected 29 Navajo men who created a code based on the complex, unwritten Navajo language. They were used in every major operation involving the Marines in the Pacific. During the course of the war, almost 400 Navajos participated in the code talker program. Their efforts were not recognized until after the declassification of the operation in 1968, declaring August 14 "Navajo Code Talkers Day."

Born Wigmuke Waste' Win in October 1919 in Promise, South Dakota, Marcella Le Beau was a young Lakota nurse. AS a child, she attended an Indian boarding school, eventually earning her undergrad degree in nursing in 1942. She enlisted in the U.S. Army Nursing Corps to serve WWII and served in France, England, and Belgium under the 76th General Hospital unit. After, she served as a director of nursing at the IHS facility in South Dakota for 31 years. October 12 was proclaimed Wigmuke Waste Win (Pretty Rainbow Woman) Marcella LeBeau Day by the state of South Dakota.



MARCELLA LE BEAU



Joseph Oklahombi was a Choctaw soldier in the U.S. army during WWI. He was the most-decorated WWI soldier from Oklahoma. He served as one of the Choctaw code talkers. In 1918, he and 23 other soldiers attacked an enemy position and captured 171 prisoners while killing numerous enemy soldiers until the rest surrendered. This earned him a Silver Star with Victory Ribbon and the Croix de Guerre from France's Marshal Henri-Philippe Petain.



JOSEPH OKLAHOMBI