

MAY IS

ASIAN PACIFIC HERITAGE MONTH



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
Office of Education

learn • lead • achieve

ELEMENTARY LEVEL

ASIAN PACIFIC HERITAGE MONTH

Use these materials to begin a conversation with elementary grade students about Asian American - Pacific Islander culture and history and the contributions made to our state and country.



GUIDING QUESTION

Who is Asian American and Pacific Islander? How have these individuals contributed to the history and culture of California and the U.S.?



EXPLORE

- **Who is Asian American?** Read to learn about the term 'Asian American' and how it came to be. *Please note: Lexile level of text can be adjusted to meet the needs of the reader.* https://newsela.com/read/asian-american-term-identity/id/51885/?search_id=1701980b-e525-42f0-baba-1b073612e92c
- Visit this site to find **12 ways** you can explore the **history, arts, and culture** of Asian-Pacific heritage. <https://artsandculture.google.com/story/5QURgt0jNvUFYw>
- Watch and learn about **Norman Y. Mineta**, a politician who went from being **mayor of San Jose, CA** to serving in Congress and as a **secretary on two presidential cabinets**. Appreciate how his childhood impacted his service. https://youtu.be/K_tkITr1Wp
- Watch to discover the **contributions Chinese workers** made to the **Transcontinental Railroad** and the **hardships** they faced as early immigrants in California. <https://youtu.be/YTXvoxUcryg>
- Watch one or more of these **music videos** featuring **singers, musicians, and school children** from across the Pacific Islands. <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLlIkCTkT1hMclxtaUcP3kj1t8wzfaZCc>
- Virtually visit a **national park/place** preserving **Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage**. <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/asian-american-and-pacific-islander-heritage-month.htm>



EXPLAIN

- As you explored Asian American - Pacific Islander history and culture, what did you discover about how these individuals are similar yet different from each other and you? (*Social Justice Standard* DI.3-5.7; JU.3-5.11)
- Despite hardships, how have Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders contributed to the history of our state and country?



ENGAGE FURTHER

- Watch this video about **March Fong Eu**, the **first Asian American assembly member and California Secretary of State**, and learn how she fought for voting rights. <https://youtu.be/mWWLXMt6ZrU>
- Watch to learn about the role **Angel Island** in the San Francisco Bay played as an **immigration station** on the west coast and the challenges new immigrants faced when arriving. <https://youtu.be/kvqtCo--Prs>
- Meet **Dr. Sammy Lee**, the **first male Asian-American to win an Olympic gold medal**, and learn about his pride in his Korean-American heritage. <https://youtu.be/rntQeLcihe8>



SECONDARY LEVEL

ASIAN PACIFIC HERITAGE MONTH

Use these materials to begin a conversation with secondary grade students about Asian American - Pacific Islander culture and history and the contributions made to our state and country.



ESSENTIAL QUESTION

Who is Asian American and Pacific Islander? How have these individuals contributed to the history and culture of California and the U.S.?



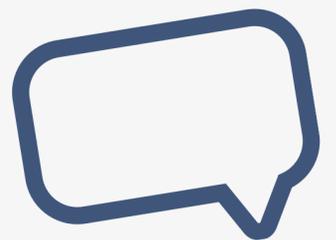
EXPLORE

- **Who is Asian American?** Read to learn about the term 'Asian American' and how it came to be. *Please note: Lexile level of text can be adjusted to meet the needs of the reader.* https://newsela.com/read/asian-american-term-identity/id/51885/?search_id=1701980b-e525-42f0-baba-1b073612e92c
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- Watch one or more of these **music videos** featuring **singers, musicians,** and **school children** from across the **Pacific Islands.** <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLlIkrCTkT1hMclxtaUcP3kj1t8wzfaZCc>
- Virtually visit a **national park/place** preserving **Asian American** and **Pacific Islander heritage.** <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/asian-american-and-pacific-islander-heritage-month.htm>
- Learn about the **Asian American influence** on the tech boom that grew **Silicon Valley**, including both those at the top and bottom. <https://ca.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/success-silicon-valley-video/asian-americans/>



EXPLAIN

- As you explored Asian American - Pacific Islander history and culture, what did you discover about how these individuals are similar yet different from each other and you? How about some common stereotypes? (*Social Justice Standard* DI.6-8.7; JU.6-8.11)
- Despite hardships, how have Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders contributed to the history of our state and country?



ENGAGE FURTHER

- Watch this video about **March Fong Eu, the first Asian American assembly member and California Secretary of State,** and learn how she fought for voting rights. <https://youtu.be/mWWLXMt6ZrU>
- Watch to learn about the role **Angel Island** in the San Francisco Bay played as an **immigration station** on the west coast and the challenges new immigrants faced when arriving. <https://youtu.be/kvqtCo--Prs>
- Meet **Dr. Sammy Lee**, the **first male Asian-American** to win an **Olympic gold medal.** <https://youtu.be/rntQeLcihe>. Read a **tribute** to his life's accomplishments. <https://www.teamusa.org/News/2016/December/03/Sammy-Lee-First-Asian-American-Man-To-Win-Olympic-Gold-Dies-At-96>
- In this TED Talk, **I Am Not Your Asian Stereotype, Carmen Xu** shares her Asian American story. https://youtu.be/_pUtz75INaw

