

Did you KNOW there are SIX different types OF Totem poles?

1. Storytelling poles - Native Alaskans used symbols to preserve stories and legends passing them down from one generation to the next.

2. Memorial poles -

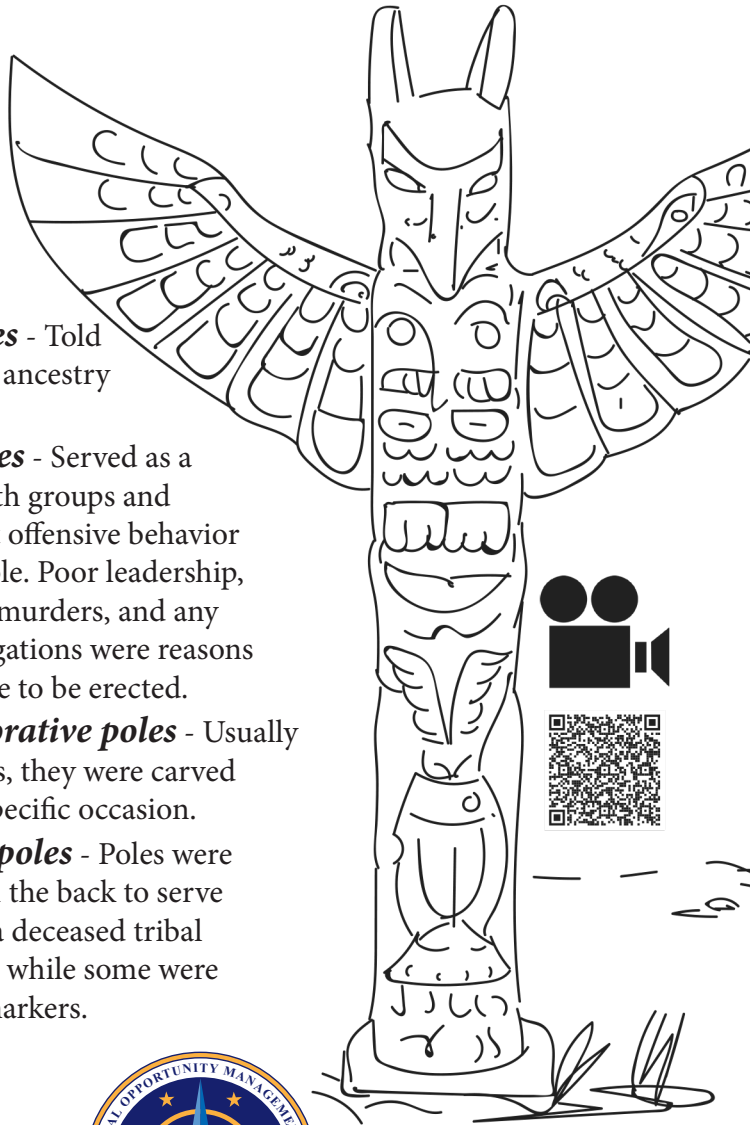
Served to highlight the life of an important tribal member.

3. House poles - Told of a tribal clans ancestry and lineage.

4. Shame poles - Served as a reminder to both groups and individuals that offensive behavior was unacceptable. Poor leadership, tribal quarrels, murders, and any unfulfilled obligations were reasons for a shame pole to be erected.

5. Commemorative poles - Usually the largest poles, they were carved to celebrate a specific occasion.

6. Mortuary poles - Poles were hollowed out in the back to serve as a holder for a deceased tribal member's ashes while some were used as grave markers.

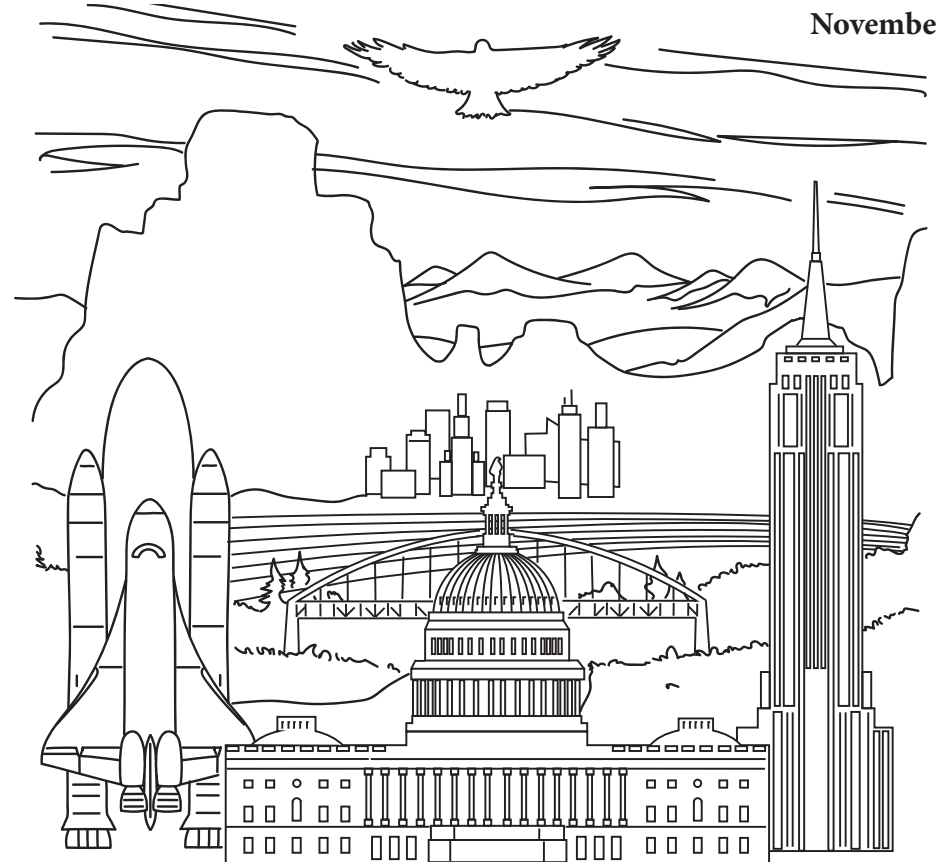


**CULTURAL
AWARENESS**

**NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN
HERITAGE MONTH**

OBSERVANCE

November



Every November, the Department of Defense (DoD) joins the Nation in celebrating **National American Indian Heritage Month**. The event is also known in some circles as American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month.

There are over 9 million American Indian and Alaska Natives living in the United States today.

With over 574 federally recognized tribes, there are hundreds of different cultures that are as unique as the people they represent.



Can you alphabetize the tribes?

1. Iroquois _____
2. Paiute _____
3. Pawnee _____
4. Qawalangin _____
5. Zuni _____
6. Creek _____
7. Winnebago _____
8. Osage _____
9. Crow _____
10. Sioux _____
11. Blackfeet _____
13. Nunakauyamiut _____
14. Cherokee _____
15. Mohawk _____
16. Hopi _____
17. Pueblo _____
18. Seminole _____
19. Apache _____
20. Kiowa _____



Native Alaskan **TSgt Blassi G. Shoogukwruk** grew up in White Mountain, a village on the Seward Peninsula. There, a childhood experience inspired his Air National Guard career.

When he was 4 years old White Mountain had a massive flood. His family had to spend a few hours on a piece of ice to stay afloat until the Army Guard rescued them.

He joined a rescue unit to return what he and his family had been given. Additionally, he wanted to continue his family's legacy of military service. Both of his grandfathers served with the Alaska Territorial Guard, and his mother served as one of the first female Army Guardsmen in Alaska villages. He also has uncles that served in the Alaska Army National Guard, Navy, and Marine Corps.

Key: 19, 11, 14, 6, 9, 16, 1, 20, 15, 13, 12, 8, 2, 3, 17, 4, 18, 10, 7, 5

For more than 100 years, generations of Mohawk ironworkers shaped the skylines of North American cities. These men built prominent landmarks, including the Empire State Building, the Chrysler Building, the George Washington Bridge, and the World Trade Center.

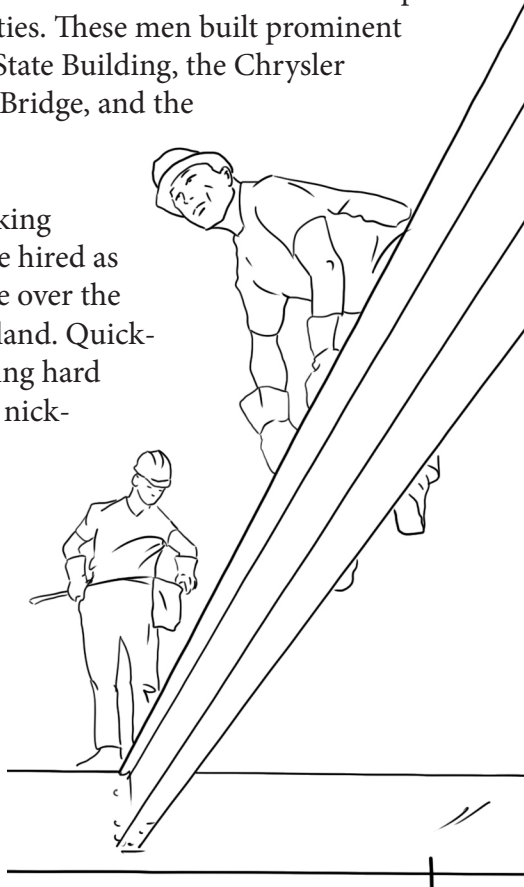
The Mohawk tradition of ironworking began in the mid-1880s. They were hired as unskilled laborers to build a bridge over the St. Lawrence River onto Mohawk land. Quickly, they earned a reputation for being hard workers on high steel, earning the nickname “skywalkers.”

In the 1960s, when plans for the World Trade Center were announced, hundreds of Mohawk men played a vital role in the construction.

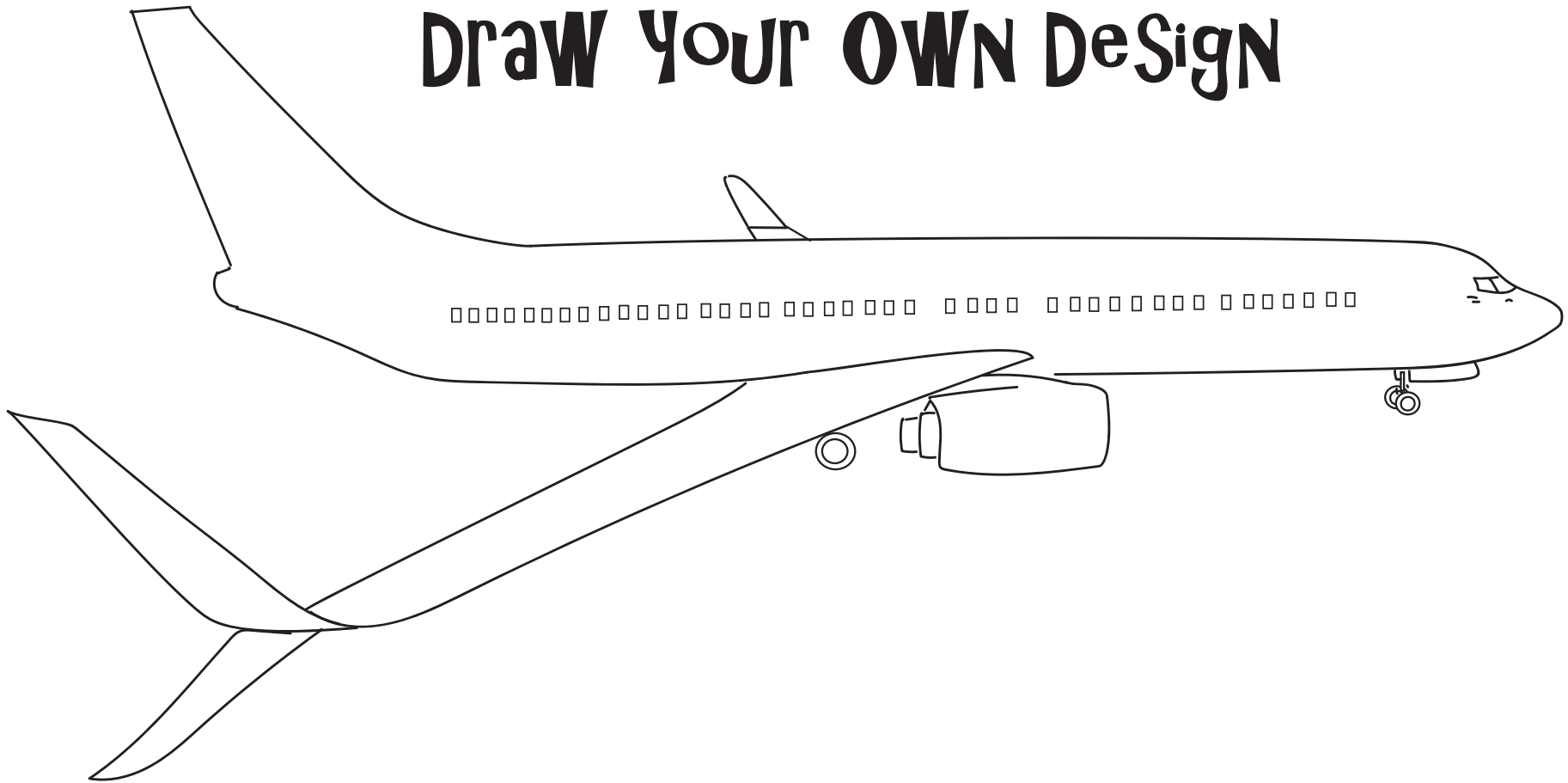
After the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the towers, descendants of the original ironworkers returned to the structure to aid in rescue and cleanup at ground zero.

Lynn Beauvais explained, “My brother Kyle went in eight hours after the towers came down. My grandfather had worked on the construction of the towers and retired from that job. My brothers worked on their final demolition and sent them to the scrapyard.”

Fittingly, Mohawk ironworkers then helped build the new Freedom Tower, now known as One World Trade Center.



Draw Your Own Design



Alaska Airlines unveiled a new plane with an original design, displaying Juneau artist Crystal Worl's tribute to salmon.

The blue, white and pink plane features images of sockeye salmon using traditional formline design specific to the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian tribes. The aircraft is named Xáat Kwáani — a Tlingit phrase that translates to "Salmon People." The Boeing 737-800 is the first plane from a domestic airline to be named in an Alaska Native language, according to Alaska Airlines.

Alaska Airlines flies a number of other aircraft with unique designs, including one with an orca design, three paying tribute to U.S. military members, and a Star Wars and Disney-themed plane.

