

Nicknames are Nifty

In *Holes*, many of the characters have nicknames. Stanley is given the name "Caveman" for bravely standing up to a bully; Jose is nicknamed "Magnet" because "his fingers are like magnets"; and Rex's nickname, X-Ray, is from the fictitious language of pig latin. Nicknames can be a variation of someone's real name. They can also derive from people's skills, achievements, or characteristics. As Stanley observed, nicknames can also be terms of respect.

Work with a partner or in small groups to research the following people. Fill in the missing real name or nickname. Use your school library or the Internet to do the research.

	Real Name	Nickname
1.	Harriet Tubman	
2.	Dwight D. Eisenhower	
3.		"Old Hickory"
4.	Wayne Gretzky	
5.	Edwin Aldrin	
6.	Zachary Taylor	
7.		"Honest Abe"
8.		"The Refrigerator"
9.	Frank Sinatra	
10.		"The King of Rock 'n' Roll"
11.		"The Babe"
12.	Julius Erving	
13.		"Stonewall"
14.		"FDR"
15.	Wilt Chamberlain	
16.		"Lemonade Lucy"
17.	Walter Payton	
18.		"Mr. October"
19.	Theodore Roosevelt	
20.		"Magic"

For an extra challenge, see if you can figure out how each of these people got their nicknames!