Easter Island

Wonders of the Medieval World

If Easter Island had been discovered on a different day, it could have been named anything from Christmas Island to Birthday Island. Dutch explorer Jacob Roggeveen was really not that creative when it came to naming things. Upon discovering a remote island on Easter Sunday, Roggeveen decided Easter Island was a good enough name.

Since Roggeveen discovered the island in 1722, the world has marveled at the massive stone statues that circle the island's perimeter. Called moai, these incredible statues are shaped like human figures – though with heads proportionately much larger than the average man's. The tallest moai stands at over 33 feet tall.

Question & Answer:

If you were Jacob Roggeveen, what would you have named your newly discovered island? Get creative. Names inspired by holidays, monarchs, or the explorer's own last name are kind of lacking in originality. Show those old explorers how to inject a bit of creativity into their discoveries!

Fill In The Blank:

1. The island was discovered by Europeans in _____ by the Dutch explorer _____, on _____.
2. The monolithic stone heads found throughout the island's coastline, with the tallest being _____ feet tall, are called _____.

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Let's color a moai!

DID YOU KNOW?

Easter Island is part of the country of Chile, and its local name is Rapanui.

Fill In The Blank answers:
1. 1722, Jacob Roggeveen,Easter Sunday
2. 33, moais

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