C01: Holiday Hack Orientation

Friday, December 15, 2023 4:05 AM

Difficulty: Level 1

Talk to Jingle Ringford on Christmas Island and get your bearings at Geese Islands

CONVERSATION w/ Elf Jingle Ringford

Jingle Ringford (Orientation)

Welcome to the Geese Islands and the 2023 SANS Holiday Hack Challenge!

I'm Jingle Ringford, one of Santa's many elves.

Santa asked me to meet you here and give you a short orientation to this festive event.

Before you head back to your boat, I'll ask you to accomplish a few simple tasks.

First things first, here's your badge! It's that starfish in the middle of your avatar.

Great - now you're official!

Click on the badge on your avatar. That's where you will see your Objectives, Hints, and Conversations for the Holiday Hack Challenge.

We've also got handy links to some awesome talks and more there for you!

Next, pick up that fishing pole over there in the sand. That will come in handy when you're sailing around the islands.

Fantastic

OK, one last thing. Click on the Cranberry Pi Terminal and follow the on-screen instructions.

** ----- Response after completing challenge ----- **

Perfect! Your orientation is now complete!

Head back to your boat or click on the anchor icon on the left of the screen to set sail for Frosty's Beach where Santa's waiting for you. I've updated your boat's compass to guide the way.

As you sail to each island, talk to the goose of that island to receive a colorful lei festooning the masts on your ship. Safe travels my friend and remember, relax, enjoy the sun, and most importantly, have FUN!

From < https://2023.holidayhackchallenge.com/badge?section=conversation&id=jingleringford>

Santa (Frosty's Beach)

Welcome to the Geese Islands, fellow traveler! This one is called Christmas Island. Nooo ho ho, not *that* Christmas Island. After countless years of shivering and shaking through each holiday season, I thought to myself, "Why not trade the snowflakes for sunbeams, just once?"

Oh, the North Pole has its charm, but the bones do yearn for a bit of warmth now and then.

The notion was suggested by my good friend, Chat North Pole Technology, or as we like to call it, 'ChatNPT'. That's the one we use, but there's a whole slew of other AI platforms. You should try them out!

It came to me describing palm trees and gentle waves, saying, "Santa, let your holidays take flight to Geese Islands, where the warmth isn't just a setting."

"There, every day is a sunny scene straight out of a vintage film reel."

I chuckled at the thought, my belly shaking like a bowl full of jelly.

But the Al persisted, "Winter's best kept secret: the balmy breezes of Geese Islands!"

And I must confess, the sound of that did stroke my beard with curiosity.

So, I called a meeting with the elves, the reindeer, and Mrs. Claus, of course. The elves were all a-buzz with the idea of crafting toys with a view of the ocean!

Thus, we packed up our sleighs and ChatNPT charted a course for the Geese Islands, a tropical paradise just north of the equator..

And I must say, there's something quite magical about a Christmas carol sung to the strum of a ukulele.

After all, the magic of the holidays isn't in the snow or the cold, but in the love and the care that we put into each and every gift.

So here's to trying new things, to following the sunshine, and to the Geese Islands, where the holiday cheer is sun-kissed and the Christmas spirit is as warm as the tropical breeze.

And it's all thanks to a little nudge from ChatNPT.

Now, why not start off your vacation with a snowball fight [challenge] with Morcel, or check out my surf shack on the other end of the beach?

However you decide to relax, be sure to soak in all the whimsical beauty of these magical islands, and enjoy the activities to the fullest!

From < https://2023.holidayhackchallenge.com/badge?section=conversation&id=santaapproach >

HINTS

Synthesis is the True Ending

From: Santa

The AI revolution has begun. Some of the most prominent and *useful* tools born from the advent of powerful AI include <u>ChatGPT</u>, <u>PlayHT</u>, <u>Midjourney</u>, <u>Dall-E 3</u>, <u>Bing AI</u>, and <u>Bard</u>, and <u>Grok</u>.

MY WORK AND ANSWER

This was an easy one - simply followed the instructions found on the Cranberry Pi terminal. This was easy to miss if you didn't click through the conversation and read to the bottom.

