

Celebrate Lindbergh!



A Monthly Idea Newsletter for Teachers and Homeschoolers--
During a Year of Celebration!

Volume 1, Issue 6

February, 2002

The Lindberghs LOVED to READ & WRITE!

Reading and writing—and books were a very important part of Charles and his wife Anne Morrow Lindbergh's life.

Charles Lindbergh

Charles' mother was a teacher. She tutored him in reading and writing before he started school at nearly eight years of age. Books, of course, were plentiful in their home. We know Charles kept a diary from 1913-1916, when he was 11-13 years old. He wrote about an automobile trip with his father, a train trip with his mother, and a journey along the Mississippi River. Following Charles Lindbergh's famous solo non-stop transatlantic flight from New York to Paris, Lindbergh's first book *We* was written, first by a ghost writer from the *New York Times* and then re-written by Charles in the weeks following his flight. His next book was *The Spirit of St. Louis*, which won a Pulitzer Prize.

Lindbergh wanted to set the record straight and wrote the manuscript over 14 years. The book is dedicated to Anne "who will never realize how much of this book she has written." Charles wrote seven books during his life.

His last book, *Autobiography of Values*, was finished by an editor after his death.

Anne Lindbergh

Anne started to keep a diary of her own when she was 10 years old. A window seat was her favorite writing spot. Anne's mother read books to her and her sisters and encouraged them to write stories, plays, and poems. She went to Smith College and wrote essays and book reviews.

Anne continued to keep a diary her whole life. When she first met Charles in Mexico in 1927, after Charles' famous flight, she was inspired to write a poem about flight, which won a prize. After Charles and Anne were married they went on around-the-world flights together. One of these adventures was the subject of Anne's first book, *North to the Orient*. During her life, Anne published five diaries and eight other books (including poetry) and essays. In Anne's most well known book, *Gift from the Sea*, Anne wrote, "I began these pages for myself, in order to think out my own particular pattern of living...and since I think best with a pencil in my hand, I started naturally to write."

(continued above...)

Just as her own mother had done, Anne encouraged her children to write and taught them that, any experience worth living through was worth writing about. At the end of her life, when Anne was no longer able to write, she continued to enjoy reading and listening to poetry.

Reeve Lindbergh

In the introduction to *The Spirit of St. Louis*, Charles and Anne's daughter, Reeve, stated, "I knew about writing, of course. Ours had always been a family of writers...writing was as routine in the household as dishwashing, with some similar aspects: it was always being done by one person or other, and it never seemed to get finished." Reeve remembers her father reading books to her and her brothers and sisters. As a former teacher herself, she enjoys reading books to children.

Reeve knows about writing, not only because her parents were writers, but also because she's a writer herself, producing 14 books for children and 5 books for adults.

Literature Links

Books that promote a love for reading: (K-2)

- [My Mom Can't Read](#) by Muriel Stanek
- [When Will I Read?](#) by Lillian Hoban
- [Today Was a Terrible Day](#) by P. Giff
- [I Like Books](#) by Anthony Browne
- [Too Many Books](#) by Caroline Bauer
- [Dora's Book](#) by Michelle Edwards
- [Little Bear Learns to Read the Cookbook](#) by Janice Brustlein

(3-5)

- [Do Bananas Chew Gum?](#) By J. Gilson
- [A Monster in the Mailbox](#) by Gordon
- [Nellie Cameron](#) by Michele Murray
- [Josefina Learns a Lesson: A School Story](#) by Valerie Tripp
- [The Flunking of Joshua T. Bates](#) by Susan Shreve



Books about becoming an author:

- [From Pictures to Words: A Book About Making a Book](#) by Janet Stevens
- [What's Your Story: A Young Person's Guide to Writing Fiction](#) by Marion Dane Bauer
- [The Furry News: How to Make a Newspaper](#) by Loreen Leedy
- [If You Were a Writer](#) by Joan Lowery Nixon



Promoting Reading Across the Curriculum

Of course reading can—and should be—taught using all curricular areas! Here are a few ideas to help you out!

Enhance Social Studies:

- Use factual books, biographies, and fiction
- Make a book of poems about what it would be like to live during another time. Be sure to use facts.
- Use books to teach a concept: 'The Butterfly' by Patricia Polacco shows what it was like to hide a Jewish family during WWII.
- Make birth announcements/write epitaphs for historical people after you research them
- Make a Civil War, WWII or Revolutionary War newspaper: include informational articles (THIS IS A GRAD STANDARD!!), historical cartoons, obituaries, sports, arts, ...
- Read an historical figure's journal/diary—create imaginary diary entries for your person
- Write a letter from 2002 to 1776 (or 1861, or 1900...)
- Read fiction and non-fiction books on the same topic
- Create a rebus story for younger students based on an historical event, use facts.

Enhance Science:

- Use books to encourage research & experimentation, to check facts, and to pursue science hobbies
- Create an imaginary creature. Write a story about what it would look like, eat, type of habitat, most unique feature, how does it get along with humans?
- Read fiction and non-fiction books on the same topic
- Create an environmental guide for your community—base it on facts
- Read about different healing methods throughout history: leeches, bloodletting, etc.
- Investigate different science methods throughout history: how did they predict weather in the 1700s

Enhance the arts:

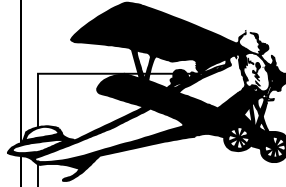
- Foster appreciation, develop taste in literature, develop writing and oral skills
- Read *The Starry Night* by Neil Waltman. Put yourself in Bernard's place, write your story about Vincent and you. OR make 'Vincent' be another artist. How would this change the story?
- Illustrate portions of a book
- Draw each character in the book
- Design a new book cover
- Create an ad to get others to read a book/author
- Turn part of a favorite book into a series of cartoons

Enhance Math:

- Investigate different monetary systems
- Calculate distances using an atlas
- Research & create a budget for travel to another state or country
- Research & create a recipe

Enhance Music & Drama:

- Create a radio show about a book
- Act out events in a story
- Design costumes for a character
- Create songs about a person/event
- Learn a song in another language
- Give dramatic readings of a book
- Create a puppet show about part of a book
- Select & include appropriate musical selections for an oral reading of the book



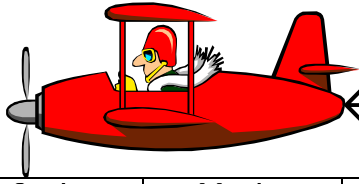
Charles' Flight Timeline for February 1927:

- **February 3rd:** Charles wires Ryan Aeronautical Company in San Diego asking if they can build him a plane
- **February 6th:** Ryan Aeronautical Company sends wire stating that they can build a plane within two months of receiving a 50% deposit
- Associated Press runs a story about Lindbergh's attempt to win the Orteig Prize
- Lindbergh receives complete financing for his flight from the St. Louis businessmen (Major Lambert, Harry Knight's father, Robertson brothers, and E. Lansing Ray). Mr. Riley suggested the name of *Spirit of St. Louis* for the plane.

Resources for Teaching the Love of Reading!






- [The Mailbox Magazine](#); all issues
- [The Bookbag Magazine](#); all issues
- [Hooked on Newbery/Caldecott Award Winners](#) by Marguerite Lewis
- [Guided Reading: Good First Teaching for All Children](#) by Irene Fountas
- [Incorporating Literature into the Basal Reading Program](#) by Judith Cochran
- ["Let Us Dare..." Whole Language Making the Transition](#) by Mark Boen
- [Children's Literature in the Reading Program](#) by Bernice E. Cullinan





February 2002 – We Love to READ!

February is also
National African-
American Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	This is "Library Lovers' Month" too!				1 Author Jerry Spinelli's birthday	2 Groudhog's Day: what's the legend?
3 Read a Reeve Lindbergh book: They're AWESOME!	4 Charles Lindbergh's 100 th Birthday!!	5	6	7 Charles Dickens & Laura Ingalls Wilder's birhtdays	8 Find a book about making paper airplanes: create a new one!	9 Read a story about Africa or elephants
10 The Earth has limited resources. How can you help save them?	11 National Inventor's Day—read about weird inventions/invent something new!	12 Abe Lincoln's real birthday; also author Judy Blume	13 Do you know where Kilgora is in Africa? Look it up in an Atlas	14 Valentine's Day! Also Read to Your Child Day 	15 SPORTS DAY, wear sports clothes	16 Family silent reading time
17 Read and tell riddles to your family.	18 President's Day! No School. Read about one. 	19 Read a "Poem to your Pooch" Day	20 Turn off the TV Day!	21 Read 'Cartoons to your Cat' Day	22 Slipper Day! Wear your slippers to school. ½ day!	23 Read a recipe, help make lunch!
24 	25 Read your cereal box. Is it good for you?	26 Find someone who is lonely & read to them!	27 Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's birthday, read poems	28 R & R day: read and relax!	