



Celebrate Lindbergh!

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

Volume 1, Issue 2

October, 2001

A Year of Celebration!

October = Honesty

Charles Lindbergh was a man of **honesty**. Lindbergh was not afraid to say what he believed, even if it was unpopular. He was always true to himself and his beliefs.

Before America entered World War II, Charles Lindbergh was invited to Germany to be the country's special guest because he was a worldwide aviation hero. While he was there, he was also a spy for the United States. He saw German war planes and factories, and met powerful German military leaders. When it seemed like it would be too dangerous to keep living in England and war might be coming soon, he and his wife, Anne, and their children moved back to the United States (in 1939).

Charles then began to work with the America First Committee by making speeches in front of large crowds. Lindbergh and the America First organization encouraged America to stay out of the war. Lindbergh was being honest when he said "...I prefer to say what I believe, or not to speak at all. I would far rather have your respect for the sincerity of what I say..." People who believe in staying out of other countries' wars are called isolationists. Lindbergh believed that America should "arm itself and defend its own borders" and not fight in other countries. More than 80% of Americans at that time believed the same thing.

After the United States was attacked at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii in 1941, America did decide to go to war. Charles Lindbergh approached his change of beliefs honestly and said, "Now that we are at war I want to contribute as best I can to my country's war effort...I want to do my part." He wanted to join the war effort because he was an experienced pilot and could help defend our country, but President Franklin D. Roosevelt would not let him because of his isolationist beliefs.

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Continued: Even though Lindbergh could have been a great help in the war, Roosevelt was afraid of what others might think. Lindbergh was determined to find a way to help, so he worked as a civilian, flying many combat missions in the South Pacific, testing new aircraft that would be used in the war. He also helped identify German targets, and taught pilots how to make their planes fly farther with the same amount of fuel. (Quotes from A. Scott Berg's book *Lindbergh*)

Discussion Starters:

- What were Lindbergh's beliefs about the war before America became involved? How did they change after America became involved?
- What are some of your beliefs? Would you be willing to stand up for them?
- What things might you need to do to stand up for your beliefs? Would there be any sacrifices you might have to make?
- Sometimes we believe one thing, and then change our minds. What does an honest person do? What did Charles Lindbergh do?
- Who is respected more, someone who says what they really believe, or someone who goes along with what everyone else says or what is popular? Why?



Web Sites Full of Ideas

Lindbergh:

http://www.heritagehalls.org/Frames/spirit_of_st_louis_lessons/menu.html

www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/lindbergh

komvuxnet.gotland.se/emigration/charles2.htm

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/aero/aved/publications/skyslimit/lindbergh.html>

Honesty:

www.pbskids.org/adventures

www.umas.edu/aesop/

Language Arts Ideas! Story Starters...

- If only I had told the truth about what happened...
- I wish that my parents would tell me the truth about...
- To me, **being honest** means...
- I believe the United States should...
- To be honest, I'm afraid of...

Science Try:

Watch the weather report for two days. Is it accurate? If not, was the weather reporter being honest with you? How can they be more accurate?

Literature Links..

K-3:

[The Berenstain Bears and the Truth](#), S. Berenstain

[Edwurd Fudwupper Fibbed Big-Explained by Fanny Fudwapper](#), Berke Breathed

[The True Francine](#), Marc Brown

[Arthur's Mystery Envelope](#), M. Brown

[Aesop's Fables](#)

[Pinocchio](#)

[The Principals' New Clothes](#)

3-6:

[Liars](#), P. Peterson

[Junie B. Jones is Not a Crook](#), B. Park

[Your Move, J. P.!](#), Lois Lowery



Honest to Goodness Fortune Cookies...

One of the hardest character traits that anyone tries to develop is honesty. Yet honesty is at the core of all we do.



During the month of October, we will be focusing on how to develop honesty in our students. Students will reflect on the meaning of honesty as they create messages about honest behavior for atypical "Honest to Goodness Fortune Cookies".

Students can use patterns and color to create fortune cookie messages that contain thought provoking, honest, trustworthy, and truthful behavior. "Cookies" may be made out of clay circles 6" x 1/4" thick, by folding the circle in half (be sure not to press down the fold) and bringing the two points together.

Lindbergh legacy...

...did you know?

1. ...after WWII, Charles Lindbergh was given the rank of Brigadier General?
2. ...Lindbergh's idea for saving fuel in combat planes increased their flying distance by 200 miles—this saved both lives and fuel.
3. Lindbergh shot down a Japanese war plane and flew many missions during World War II?
4. The South Pacific is made up of only islands?

*Information taken from the Lindbergh Foundation.

Feedback: As with anything new, the 'bugs' always need to be worked out. Was there something that you found particularly useful? Something that you didn't understand, or needs more clarification? Constructive criticism and fresh ideas are welcome!

Please email me at psharon@lfalls.k12.mn.us.

Thanks! Pat Sharon