



Volume 1, Issue 1

Celebrate Lindbergh!

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

September, 2001

September = Self-Discipline

Charles Lindbergh was a very **self-disciplined** person. He set goals and, step by step, worked toward them. When he was a young boy and lived in Little Falls, Minnesota, he heard, and then saw, his first airplane...

"I can even connect the Mississippi, here, with aviation. One day, before the first World War began, when I was playing upstairs in our house, I heard an unusually loud engine noise. I ran to the window and climbed out onto the roof. There was an airplane flying upriver, below the treetops on the banks. I learned that it was carrying passengers from a field near Little Falls. Of course, I wanted to fly in it, but my mother said that would be much too expensive and dangerous."

(from a speech delivered by Charles Lindbergh, in Little Falls, MN on the occasion of the dedication of Lindbergh State Park, September of 1973)

It was that day, at the age of nine, that Charles had a glimpse of what his future might be.
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Language Arts Idea! Have the students think about something that they have experienced at home or at school that could lead to a lifelong hobby or job. (Drawing, eating cereal, taking pictures, learning times tables, catching insects, shopping, reading a book, bird watching, etc.) **Students could:** make an acrostic poem about it; write a paragraph and illustrate it; use Amazing Writing Machine and write a futuristic story; write a story, research all of the schooling they would need to accomplish that job....

*my Future holds
Lessons to make me soar
You won't believe the feeling,
Inch by inch, higher and higher,
Never being scared
Growing better with practice.*

Awesome!

Art: Create "Time Out Fans" during art classes. These fans can help children look objectively at situations requiring a cool-down time to control emotions.



Math: Patterning: Cut out four fan shapes: How many different patterns can you create? How many straight lines are there? Curved lines?

Social: Research project: What is the history of the fan? How was it used throughout history?

Science: Inventing: Create an imaginative airplane using all four fans, two fans, three, one.

Language Arts: (See article at left)

Coordinating Literature



Since this is the very first 'teachers' idea' newsletter, we wanted to list basic books about Charles and Anne Lindbergh. Others listed are about the character trait: **self-discipline**.

Charles Lindbergh by Lucia Raatma

The Boyhood Diary of Charles Lindbergh - 1913 - 1919 by C. Lindbergh

Charles A. Lindbergh: A Human Hero by James Cross Giblin

Henry Hikes to Fitchburg by D.B. Johnson

If I'd Known Then What I Know Now by Reeve Lindbergh (self-discipline)

The Little Red Hen (self-discipline)

The Little Engine That Could (self-discipline)

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"I used to imagine myself with wings on which I could swoop down off our roof into the valley, soaring through air from one river bank to the other, over stones of the rapids, above log jams, above the tops of trees and fences. I thought often of men who really flew."

- Charles Lindbergh, age 9

Charles Lindbergh became one of those "men who really flew", but it wasn't without *determination and self-discipline*. As a boy on the farm, Charles loved to invent things and tinker with 'modern machinery'. Following high school he went to the University of Wisconsin in Madison. From there he paid tuition to the Nebraska Aircraft Corporation in Lincoln, Nebraska, to learn different aspects of aircraft building, maintenance, and took his first flight.

After a few months, Lindbergh began barnstorming, wing-walking, and skydiving to save money to buy his own plane. The next year, in 1923, he bought a war-surplus "Jenny" and barnstormed. He thought about being a scout pilot, so he enlisted and went to Army flying school. There he worked harder than ever to get good grades, sometimes staying up late at night in the latrine where there were lights. Out of an original group of 104 students, only 19 completed the course and **Lindbergh graduated first in his class!**

Lindbergh was determined to follow his dream, because he loved "the sky and flying more than anything else on Earth." Lindbergh then began teaching others to fly and became the first pilot to fly an airmail route from St. Louis to Chicago. It was in St. Louis that he first got the idea that he could fly non-stop between New York and Paris with a plane with the right kind of design.

In 1927 after his famous flight, many people called Charles Lindbergh "Lucky Lindy", but he really wasn't lucky. *Charles had a dream to become a pilot and the self-discipline to work towards his dream by: exploring his interests and not being afraid to try new things as a boy; and studying, working hard and saving money as a young man. Charles challenged himself to new heights.*

Discussion Starters:

- What's your dream?
- What challenges might be in your way?
- Charles was a planner and a list maker. Make a list of things that you could do now to help you reach your dream.
- How long did it take for Charles to realize his dream?

Lindbergh legacy...

...did you know?

Charles Lindbergh was nicknamed "Lucky Lindy" & the "Lone Eagle"?

Charles first entered the Army in 1924?

Charles was a true environmentalist?

Charles once drove his motorcycle down the hall of his high school?

Charles was a "barnstormer". What is that?

Charles paid \$500 in 1923 for a "Jenny" airplane. What would it cost today?

*Information taken from sources listed in 'Coordinating Literature' and from the Lindbergh Foundation.



Lindbergh Learning Sites

Try these terrific sites to get more information about Lindbergh!

www.lindberghfoundation.org

<http://www.norfacad.pvt.k12.va.us/project/lindbergh/lindbergh.htm>

<http://www.worldbook.com/fun/aviator/html/twolegnd.htm>

homeschooling.about.com/education/homeschooling/library/blindbergh.htm

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/lindbergh/>

Finally, 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