
FLIGHT

INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Science

- Compare bats with airplanes.
- Discuss why some birds fly and some do not.
- Predict how aircraft will function in space (see NASA's *Lift-off to Learning: Toys in Space II* video).
- Discuss why some plants have seeds that “fly.”
- Discuss why wind is important to flying.
- Compose a list of living things that fly and a list of those that do not fly.
- List safety concerns pilots address when flying in aircraft.
- Compare and contrast how helicopters and airplanes fly.
- Compare and contrast some of the different kinds of aircraft.

Mathematics

- Experiment building kites with different geometric shapes. Determine which kite flies the best.
- Determine how fast students can flap their arms. Graph and compare.
- Many birds migrate. Using a map, calculate how far some birds travel when they migrate.
- Make an aircraft drawing by connecting dots using numbers that require students to count by 2s or 3s.
- Test fly a paper or Styrofoam glider and determine the glide time. Record and graph results.

Fine Arts

- Design an airplane stamp.
- Outline the shape of an airplane using a meter-length piece of string or yarn.
- Create a song about flying.
- List popular songs that contain flying as a theme.
- Build kites shaped like musical instruments.
- Draw pictures of things flying through the air.

Technology Education

- Design and construct different types of kites. Experiment with the designs to determine which kites fly the best.
- Design and build different types of gliders or paper airplanes.
- Construct models of different aircraft using popsicle sticks.
- Make an airplane using common household items.
- Design a unique aircraft on a computer.

Social Studies

- Create a pictorial history of flying, including kites, balloons, helicopters, and airplanes.
- Discuss the impact flying machines have had on civilization.
- List the many jobs and careers that were created by the industry of flight.

Language Arts

- Create an ABC picture dictionary of flight.
- Read mythology stories such as Icarus that are related to flight.
- Locate stories about flying in the school library.
- Have students write poems about flying.
- Maintain a “Book Center” with flight-related stories for students to read.
- Write open-ended stories about flying and have the students complete them.
- Develop flash cards for the parts of an airplane.
- Have students spell their names using the International Phonetic Code Alphabet.
- Make a bulletin board using aviation words that begin with the letters of the alphabet.
- Have students who have flown write about their experiences.