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TEACHER'S GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

In 1927, Charles Lindbergh became an international hero by flying solo over the Atlantic Ocean. Lindbergh's amazing accomplishment gave him a permanent place in history and made him a cultural icon. To celebrate the 75th anniversary of Lindbergh's flight from New York to Paris, his grandson, Erik Lindbergh, has decided to retrace his grandfather's path and to recreate the historic flight. Today, three-quarters of a century later, flying solo across the Atlantic in a single engine plane is still a dangerous and difficult task. This special program looks back on Charles Lindbergh's historic flight and follows the preparations for Erik Lindbergh's 2002 flight to commemorate his grandfather's achievement.

The History Channel would like to thank Verizon Wireless for sponsoring the *Lindbergh Flies Again* teacher's guide.

CURRICULUM LINKS

Lindbergh Flies Again is appropriate for middle and high school students in U.S. history, aeronautic history, American culture, and science and technology classes.

OBJECTIVES

Students will map the historic flight of Charles Lindbergh and will interpret its historical significance. They will follow the intense preparations made by both Lindberghs for their respective flights. They will identify and analyze the changes in aeronautic technology between 1927 and the present.

NATIONAL HISTORY STANDARDS

Lindbergh Flies Again fulfills the following National Standards for History for grades 5-12: Historical Thinking Standards 1 (chronological thinking), 2 (historical comprehension), 3 (historical analysis and interpretations) and 4 (historical research capabilities) for United States History, Eras 7 and 10.

VOCABULARY

aerodynamics	(n.) the scientific study of the motion of gases (especially air) and their effects on objects moving through them
arduous	(adj.) demanding great effort or labor; difficult
avionics	(n.) the science and technology of electronics and of the development of electronic devices as applied to aeronautics
deteriorate	(v.) to weaken or disintegrate; decay
hazardous	(adj.) full of danger; perilous
icon	(n.) an important and enduring symbol
initiative	(n.) the ability to begin or to follow through with a plan or task
innovation	(n.) something that is newly introduced
isolation	(n.) separation from other people or places
meticulous	(adj.) extremely careful and precise
prosthesis	(n.) an artificial device used to replace a missing body part
rudimentary	(adj.) relating to basic facts or principles

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Charles Lindbergh is one of the most famous figures of the 20th century. What is his claim to fame?
- Many argue that Lindbergh's flight is the greatest single achievement of the 20th century. Do you agree? What other events might also be considered the single greatest achievement?
- What difficulties did Charles face as a child? Why did he have trouble fitting in?
- What was the Orteig prize?
- Charles was not the only pilot vying for the Orteig Prize. What happened to the other prize seekers?
- The press was a constant presence in Charles's life. Why was the press so interested in Charles Lindbergh and his exploits?
- How did Charles Lindbergh's feat change his life?
- Why did Erik Lindbergh decide to recreate his grandfather's famous flight?
- What risks did Erik face in recreating his grandfather's historic flight?
- How can you compare and contrast the original *Spirit of St. Louis* and the *New Spirit of St. Louis*?
- How did the Lindberghs each raise the money necessary for the construction of their planes?
- Although there have been advances in aviation technology, flying solo across the Atlantic in a single engine plane is still quite dangerous. How did Erik Lindbergh prepare for the dangers of his flight?
- Erik Lindbergh has rheumatoid arthritis, a debilitating disease. How did Erik overcome this disease?
- What is the legacy of Charles Lindbergh? How does his grandson's tribute help you to understand his legacy?

EXTENDED ACTIVITIES

1. Using the medium of your choice, create a replica of *The Spirit of St. Louis*.
2. On a world map, trace Charles Lindbergh's transatlantic flight route.
3. Research the life of Charles Lindbergh. Create an illustrated timeline of important events in his professional and personal life. What event happened in his personal life that rivaled the publicity of his professional life?
4. Create a poster celebrating Erik Lindbergh's flight.

PRIMARY SOURCE

Visit *The New York Times* on the Web at <http://www.nytimes.com/books/98/09/27/specials/lindbergh-welcome.html> to read a May 22, 1927 news report of Lindbergh's successful transatlantic flight.

WEB SITES

www.historychannel.com/lindbergh

Lindbergh Flies Again companion Web site on HistoryChannel.com

www.nytimes.com/books/98/09/27/specials/lindbergh.html

Articles on Charles Lindbergh from the archives of *The New York Times*

www.worldbook.com/fun/aviator/html/twolegnd.htm

Two Legends of Aviation from the World Book Encyclopedia

www.nasm.edu/galleries/archives/LINHINold.htm

The National Air and Space Museum commemorates Lindbergh's flight

www.xprize.org

X PRIZE Foundation's feature on Erik Lindbergh's 2002 flight

www.healthtalk.com/rain/path/lindbergh

Interview with Erik Lindbergh on the Rheumatoid Arthritis Information Network

BOOKS

Collins, David R. and Victor Mays (Illustrator).

Charles Lindbergh: Hero Pilot

(Chelsea House Publishers, 1991)

Reading level: Ages 9-12

Berg, Scott.

Lindbergh

(Berkley Publishing Group, 1999)

Reading level: Adult

Lindbergh, Charles A.

The Spirit of St. Louis

(Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1994)

Reading level: Young Adult

Lindbergh, Charles A. and Megan O'Hara.

The Boyhood Diary of Charles A. Lindbergh, 1913-1916: Early Adventures of the Famous Aviator (Diaries, Letters, and Memoirs)

(Blue Earth Books, 2000)

Reading level: Ages 9-12