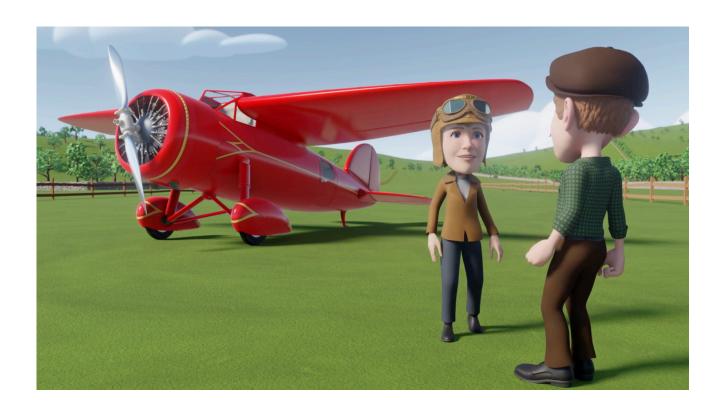
DISCOVER AMERICA

Teacher Guide



Flying into History: The Legacy of Amelia Earhart



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Key Themes

- Exploration and Adventure
- Legacy and Impact
- Overcoming Obstacles
- Pioneering Spirit
- The Journey to Flight
- Women in Aviation

Core Values

- Community
- Life
- Liberty



Learning Objectives

Students will be able to

- Recognize Amelia Earhart as a pioneering aviator and learn key facts about her life and achievements.
- Discuss what airplanes are, their purpose, and how they help people travel through the air.
- Recall the significance of the Wright brothers' first powered flight and how it connects to Amelia's journey into aviation.
- Describe significant milestones in Amelia Earhart's life, including her solo transatlantic flight and her contributions to women in aviation.
- Identify challenges Amelia faced on her journey to becoming a pilot and discuss the importance of perseverance and determination in overcoming obstacles.
- Create "Flight Passports" to illustrate their understanding of Amelia's journey and reflect on their own dreams and aspirations, fostering personal connection and creativity.

Key Terms

- 0 1 **altitude:** how high something is above the ground or sea level.
- 0 2 **aviation:** the field of designing, building, and flying airplanes and other flying vehicles, like helicopters.
- 0 3 **capable:** having the skills or ability to do something well.
- 0 4 cargo: the goods or items carried by a vehicle, like a plane or a ship.
- O 5 **contribution:** giving or adding something to help make a situation better or to support a cause.
- 0 6 **exhilarating:** something that makes you feel very excited and full of energy.
- 0 7 **milestone:** an important event or achievement that marks a big step in a process.
- 0 8 **obstacle:** something that makes it difficult to do something or get where you want to go.
- 0 9 **perseverance:** not giving up, even when things are tough.
- 10 **Red Cross:** a group that helps people during emergencies and disasters.
- responsibility: being trustworthy and doing what you are supposed to do.
- 12 **sacrifice:** giving up something important to help others or to achieve a goal.
- sensation: a strong feeling or excitement that people experience.
- 14 **stenographer:** someone who writes down what people say.
- 15 **transformation:** a big change or shift from one state to another.

Introduction

TELL Students @ /

[Set up a portion of the classroom as a flight simulation. Place two rows of three chairs lined up congruently. Use a large piece of cardboard as the door to the plane. Place posters of clouds on the wall for students to view as they ascend on their "flight." Give each student a post-it note or a pretend ticket to enter the "plane."] Welcome aboard! My name is Captain Teacher and today we are flying on a special journey to learn about a brave pioneer of flight named Amelia Earhart.

[Reference Amelia Earhart Image.] Alright, passengers, it is time to board our classroom airplane! Everyone, please give me your ticket, find your seats and buckle up—safety first! [Make sure all students find a seat.] Now, let's pretend our airplane is taking off. [As the imaginary plane ascends, describe what you see with the students.] Look out your windows, everyone!

ASK Students

What do you see?

TELL Students

The ground is getting smaller, and we can see the trees and houses below. Wow, look at those fluffy white clouds—just like cotton candy! Now we are flying high above the ocean. Can you spot any boats? Maybe some dolphins swimming! As we fly, let's think about Amelia Earhart, who flew across oceans like this one! She was brave and loved to explore.

ASK Students

What do you think Amelia saw from her airplane?

TELL Students

Alright, passengers, we are starting our descent! Get ready to touch down safely. [Help students exit the "plane," and return to their seats.] Welcome back, everyone! I hope you enjoyed our flight! Now, let's learn more about Amelia and her amazing adventures in the sky! Amelia Earhart was born on July 24, 1897, in Atchison, Kansas, just six years before Wilbur and Orville Wright flew their first powered airplane in North Carolina. [Reference Wright Brothers Image.]

ASK Students

What do you remember about Wilbur and Orville Wright?

Introduction

TELL Students

The Wright brothers, Wilbur and Orville, were two amazing inventors who changed the world by building the first successful powered airplane! They were born in the late 1800s and grew up in a family that encouraged their curiosity and love for machines. They worked hard and conducted many experiments to figure out how to fly. Finally, on December 17, 1903, in North Carolina, they made history with their plane, the Wright Flyer, flying for 12 seconds! [Reference Wright Flyer Image.] This incredible achievement opened the door to aviation and inspired many others, including Amelia Earhart. Aviation is the field of designing, building, and flying airplanes and other flying vehicles, like helicopters. It includes everything related to flight, from the technology that makes planes fly to the pilots who operate them. When we talk about aviation, we are talking about how people travel through the air, just like Amelia did! As a little girl, Amelia loved spending time outdoors. She climbed trees, went sledding, hunted, and rode imaginary horses. [Reference Young Amelia Image.] When she was 11 years old, she went to the lowa State Fair with her parents and saw her first airplane. To her surprise, she wasn't impressed at all! She remembered thinking, "It was just a rusty thing made of wire and wood, and it didn't look interesting at all."

ASK Students

Why do you think Amelia wasn't impressed by the airplane she saw at the fair? What do you think she expected it to look like?

TELL Students

It is important to remember that airplanes were still very new back then! Amelia saw her first airplane just five years after the Wright brothers made their famous flight in 1903. At that time, airplanes were still being developed, and big planes like the ones we see today for traveling didn't exist yet. [Reference Progression of Planes Image.] Most planes could only carry the pilot, which is quite different from how we fly today!

ASK Students

Have you ever seen a plane flying in the sky? What did it look like? Let's share what you saw! [Allow students to share their experiences as you write their answers on a whiteboard.]

Introduction

TELL Students

Absolutely! When we see planes flying in the sky, they often have big wings and colorful designs, and they carry many passengers and cargo, like luggage or supplies. **Cargo** refers to the goods or items carried by a vehicle, like a plane or a ship. **[Reference Cargo Image.]** There is a significant transformation from the early airplanes that only had room for the pilot to the planes we see today. A **transformation** is a big change or shift from one state to another. Amelia Earhart played a huge role in the transformation of airplanes and aviation. She worked incredibly hard to become a pilot, breaking barriers for women in aviation. **[Reference Amelia Image.]** Amelia showed that women could do anything, including flying planes and going on amazing adventures. Her bravery and determination inspired many people to pursue their dreams, whether in aviation or other fields. Thanks to her contributions, flying has become safer and more accessible for everyone today! **Contribution** means giving or adding something to help make a situation better or to support a cause. It could be sharing your toys with friends, helping someone with their homework, or working together on a project. Every contribution, big or small, helps make a difference! Let's watch another episode of Star Spangled Adventures to learn more about Amelia!

WATCH O

Star Spangled Adventures Cartoon Ep. 36: Amelia Earhart







TELL Students @ P

Amelia was an amazing student who did really well in her classes, especially in science. In 1916, she graduated from Hyde Park High School in Chicago and then went to a finishing school called the Ogontz School near Philadelphia. But she decided to leave school before graduating to help as a nurse's aide with the Red Cross, taking care of wounded soldiers from World War I at a military hospital in Toronto. The **Red Cross** is a group that helps people during emergencies and disasters. They provide things like food, shelter, and medical care to those in need. The Red Cross also teaches people how to be safe and prepared for emergencies, like how to give first aid. [Reference Red Cross Symbol.] They are known for their symbol, a red cross on a white background, which represents helping and caring for others.

ASK Students

What does Amelia's decision to leave school and join the Red Cross to help wounded soldiers tell us about her character? What qualities do you think she had that made her want to help others in need?

TELL Students

Amelia's decision to leave school and join the Red Cross shows that she was kind, brave, and selfless. She wanted to help others who were suffering, which shows her strong character and sense of responsibility. **Responsibility** means being trustworthy and doing what you are supposed to do. It is about taking care of your duties, like completing your homework, helping at home, or being a good friend. When you are responsible, people can rely on you to do things right and keep your promises! While she was there, something amazing happened that would change her life forever. Amelia attended a flying show where a stunt pilot flew his plane right by her. Instead of feeling scared, she was fascinated! **[Reference Stunt Show Image.]** Amelia remembered thinking, "I am sure he said to himself, 'watch me make them scamper.'" This moment really stuck with her. Later, she reflected, "I didn't understand it at the time, but I believe that little red airplane said something to me as it swished by." It was a sign that flying was meant to be a part of her future!

ASK Students

How did Amelia feel when she saw the stunt pilot fly by? How do you think that moment inspired her to pursue her dream of flying?

TELL Students @

When Amelia saw the stunt pilot fly by, she felt a mix of excitement and wonder. It was thrilling to see the plane zoom through the sky, and that moment sparked something deep inside her. It showed her how amazing flying could be, inspiring her to follow her dream of becoming a pilot. After that incredible experience, Amelia spent a year in a pre-med program at Columbia University. However, she decided to move to Los Angeles to be closer to her parents. [Reference Amelia and Family Image.] Then, on December 28, 1920, she went to an air show with her dad, and that is when she rode in an airplane for the first time! She later said, "By the time I had gotten two or three hundred feet off the ground, I knew I had to fly." That moment changed everything for her!

ASK Students

What do you think it was about that first airplane ride that made Amelia feel like she "had to fly"? How do you think her excitement in that moment influenced her choices afterward?

TELL Students

That first airplane ride filled Amelia with an incredible sense of freedom and adventure. Being up in the air, seeing the world from above felt exhilarating! **Exhilarating** means something that makes you feel very excited and full of energy! It is the kind of feeling you get when you do something fun and thrilling, like riding a roller coaster or winning a game. It can make your heart race and bring a big smile to your face! That thrill likely made Amelia realize how much she loved flying and how it could be a part of her life. It inspired her to take action and pursue her dream more seriously. To follow her dream of flying, Amelia took on several jobs to earn money. [Reference Amelia's Jobs Image.] She worked as a truck driver, a photographer, and a stenographer, which is someone who writes down what people say. In 1921, she took her very first flying lesson with a pilot named Neta Snook. Amelia also bought her first airplane, a bright yellow Kinner Airster that she named the "Canary." [Reference Canary Image.] She was determined to make her dream a reality!

ASK Students

Why did Amelia take on so many different jobs to earn money for her flying lessons? How do you think her determination helped her achieve her dream?

TELL Students @ P

Amelia's motivation to take on so many different jobs came from her strong passion for flying and her determination to succeed. She knew that if she wanted to achieve her dream, she had to work hard and make sacrifices. Sacrifice means giving up something important to help others or to achieve a goal. For example, if someone gives up their free time to help a friend, that is a sacrifice. It can also mean giving up something you love to make things better for someone else. Sacrifice shows how much you care about others and your willingness to help! Amelia's sacrifice, dedication, and focus helped her overcome challenges and stay on the path to becoming a pilot. Just one year after she started flying, Amelia achieved something amazing! She set an unofficial altitude record for female pilots, reaching a height of 14,000 feet in the Canary. Altitude is how high something is above the ground or sea level. [Reference Altitude Image.] For example, if you are in an airplane flying in the sky, the altitude tells you how many feet or meters you are above the ground. The higher you go, the greater the altitude! In 1923, Amelia became the 16th woman ever to earn an international pilot's license from the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale, the organization that oversees aviation sports. Amelia was on her way to making history!

ASK Students

What do you think were some of the biggest challenges Amelia faced on her journey to becoming a pilot, and how do you think her determination helped her overcome them?

TELL Students @ P

Some of the biggest challenges Amelia faced on her journey to becoming a pilot included overcoming the doubts of others, dealing with the technical difficulties of flying, and facing dangerous weather conditions. [Reference Amelia's Challenges Image.] Also, many people didn't think women could be pilots, but Amelia's determination and confidence helped her push through those obstacles. An **obstacle** is something that makes it difficult to do something or get where you want to go. It can be a physical barrier, like a fallen tree in the way, or a challenge, like a tough math problem. Overcoming obstacles means finding a way to get past or deal with them so you can keep moving forward! Amelia worked hard to overcome obstacles by learning everything she could about flying, and her bravery allowed her to take risks that others might shy away from.

TELL Students (continued)

In 1928, Amelia Earhart was approached by publisher George Putnam and asked to be the first female passenger to fly across the Atlantic Ocean. On June 17, 1928, Amelia flew from Newfoundland to Wales with pilot Wilmer Stultz and co-pilot Lou Gordon. The journey lasted for 20 hours and 40 minutes, and even though Amelia did not touch the controls during the flight, she became a sensation. A **sensation** is a strong feeling or excitement that people experience. It can also mean something that is really popular or gets a lot of attention, like a new movie or a great performance. For example, when Amelia Earhart flew across the Atlantic, she became a sensation because everyone was amazed by what she did!

ASK Students

What do you think it felt like for Amelia to become a sensation after her flight across the Atlantic, even though she did not actually fly the plane? How do you think her achievement inspired other women at the time?

TELL Students

Becoming a sensation must have felt both exciting and overwhelming for Amelia. She likely felt proud of her achievement and the attention it brought, but at the same time, she might have wished she could have flown the plane herself. Her journey inspired many women by showing them that they could pursue their dreams. [Reference Flight Image.] Amelia's determination and courage were key qualities that helped her achieve dreams. Her achievement demonstrated the opportunities available for women and what they could accomplish. When she returned, she was welcomed by cheering crowds who were amazed at what she had done, but she did not think she deserved the credit. [Reference Cheering Crowd Image.] Amelia was especially disappointed because she had been promised a chance to fly, but she only got to briefly take control of the plane on the last part of the journey, from Wales to Southampton, England, after the main flight had already been completed. "Stultz did all the flying—he had to. I was just baggage, like a sack of potatoes," she said. Amelia added, "Maybe someday I'll try it alone."

ASK Students

Why do you think Amelia felt disappointed about not flying during this historic flight, and how do you think this influenced her desire to try flying solo in the future?

TELL Students **P**

Amelia felt disappointed about not flying during this historic flight because she had worked hard for the opportunity and wanted to prove herself as a capable pilot. **Capable** means having the skills or ability to do something well. When we say someone is a capable pilot, it means they can fly a plane confidently and safely. It shows that they have worked hard and learned what they need to know to succeed! Amelia wanted to show the world that she could achieve her dreams and demonstrate her skills as a pilot. And, on May 20, 1932, she made history! Just five years after Charles Lindbergh became the first person to fly solo nonstop across the Atlantic Ocean, Amelia became the second aviator and the first woman to achieve this incredible accomplishment. In fact, she was also the first person to fly across the Atlantic two times! Amelia took off in a red Lockheed 5B Vega from Harbor Grace, Newfoundland, Canada, on the evening of May 20. But this journey was not easy. Amelia faced many challenges during her flight, and success was not guaranteed.

ASK Students

What qualities helped Amelia overcome the doubts of others and succeed as a pilot? How do you think her determination influenced her journey?

TELL Students

Amelia's determination and courage were key qualities that helped her overcome doubts and succeed as a pilot. She believed in herself and was willing to work hard, even when others doubted her abilities. Her confidence allowed her to face challenges head-on, and her perseverance kept her moving forward despite obstacles. **Perseverance** means not giving up, even when things are tough. It is about trying and working hard to reach your goals, even if you face challenges or make mistakes along the way. When you have perseverance, you stay determined and keep going until you succeed! Shortly after starting her more than 2,000-mile journey, Amelia ran into bad weather. Amelia had to deal with being tired and feeling sick, and she discovered that her fuel tank was leaking! [**Reference Plane Issues Image.**] To make things even more difficult, a crack in the engine caused flames to shoot out. Ice formed on the wings of her plane, making it hard to fly and causing her to descend quickly to just above the ocean waves. When she finally spotted land, she landed in a farmer's field. "Where am I?" she asked.

ASK Students

What do you think Amelia felt during those challenging moments of her flight when things were going wrong? How do you think her determination helped her stay calm and focused in such a tough situation?

TELL Students

During those challenging moments of her flight, Amelia likely felt a mix of fear and determination. Facing such tough situations, she probably felt the pressure, but her strong belief in herself helped her stay calm and focused. Instead of giving up, she used her courage to push through the difficulties, which ultimately led to her success. [Reference Amelia Image.] Amelia had arrived in Culmore, near Londonderry in Northern Ireland. She had accomplished her goal and showed the world just how talented, brave, and capable she was as a pilot. For her amazing achievement, Amelia received the National Geographic Society's gold medal from President Herbert Hoover, as well as the Distinguished Flying Cross from Congress.

ASK Students

How did Amelia's feelings of fear and determination influence her actions during her flight? What can we learn from her ability to stay calm and focused in tough situations?

TELL Students

Amelia's feelings of fear and determination played a huge role in her actions during her flight. When faced with challenges, her determination kept her focused on her goal, while her fear reminded her of the importance of staying safe and making smart choices. By balancing those feelings, she was able to push through and achieve her dream. We can learn from her example that it is okay to feel scared sometimes, but having confidence in ourselves can help us overcome obstacles. [Reference Amelia Image.] Her remarkable flight was celebrated all over the world and is still honored today as a major milestone in aviation. A milestone is an important event or achievement that marks a big step in a process. It is like a special marker on a journey. For example, learning to ride a bike without training wheels or finishing a big project at school are milestones. They show progress and help us celebrate what we have accomplished!

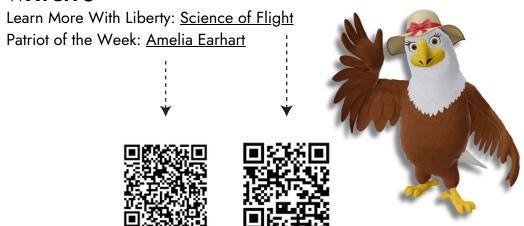
ASK Students

How did Amelia's ability to balance her fear with confidence help her achieve her dreams, and what milestones in your own life have made you feel proud?

TELL Students

Amelia Earhart's ability to balance her fear with confidence was important in helping her achieve her dreams. By acknowledging her fears, she understood the importance of staying safe and making smart choices, which allowed her to take calculated risks. This bravery is something we can all learn from—it is okay to feel scared sometimes, but believing in ourselves helps us overcome obstacles and reach our goals. [Reference Amelia Image.] Although Amelia had many interests, she courageously pursued her daring mission to cross the Atlantic all by herself! She inspired many people by sharing her passion for flying, and she is remembered not only for her incredible accomplishments but also for the love of flying she shared with others. Let's watch an exciting Learn More with Liberty video and a Patriot of the Week to learn more!

WATCH O





Objective

Students will learn about Amelia Earhart's life, her accomplishments in aviation, and the importance of determination and perseverance through engaging activities.

Materials Needed

- Large world map or globe
- Picture cards of significant events in Amelia's life
- Art supplies (paper, crayons, markers)
- "Flight Passports" (simple booklets for students)
- A timeline chart for Amelia's milestones
- Amelia Earhart-themed poem (included below)
- · Space for group discussion and activities

Review of Amelia Earhart

Start with a brief review of Amelia Earhart, highlighting her achievements and her role as a pioneering aviator. Show a picture of her and ask students what they know about her.

Interactive Storytime

- Use picture cards representing significant events in Amelia's life (e.g., her childhood, her first flight, becoming the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic). Show each card while telling a short story about each event.
- As you present each card, place it on the large world map or globe to show locations related to her journey.

Group Discussion

- After the story, ask students questions about Amelia's determination and perseverance, such as:
 - "What challenges did Amelia face?"
 - "How did she show determination in her journey?"
- Encourage students to share their thoughts and personal examples.





Create "Flight Passports"

- Give each student a "Flight Passport" booklet. Instruct them to decorate the cover and write or draw one
 important milestone from Amelia's life on the first page.
- As they learn more about Amelia throughout the lesson, they can add more pages with drawings or notes about her achievements.

Amelia's Timeline

- Create a simple timeline on a bulletin board with key milestones in Amelia's life. Invite students to help place events in order using the picture cards.
- Discuss why each event is significant and what it teaches us about perseverance.

Poem Recitation

Share the poem "Amelia Soars" with the students. Explain what a poem is, the elements of a poem, and what students can learn from this type of literacy. Read it aloud and encourage students to join in for the last few lines. Discuss the message of the poem and how it relates to Amelia's life.

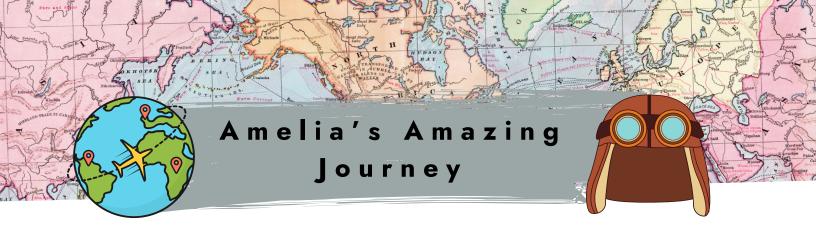
Amelia Soars

In the sky, so brave and free, Amelia Earhart flew with glee. With dreams of flight, she took to the air, Showing the world that women can dare.

Across the ocean, she made her mark, Flying high, igniting a spark. With courage strong and heart so true, She proved what determination can do.

So let us learn from Amelia's flight,
To chase our dreams with all our might.
With every challenge that comes our way,
We can be like her—let's seize the day!





Art Activity

- Have students create a drawing of Amelia flying her airplane or design their own dream airplane. They can include elements that represent their own dreams and goals.
- Display the artwork around the classroom to celebrate their creativity and learning

Reflection and Sharing

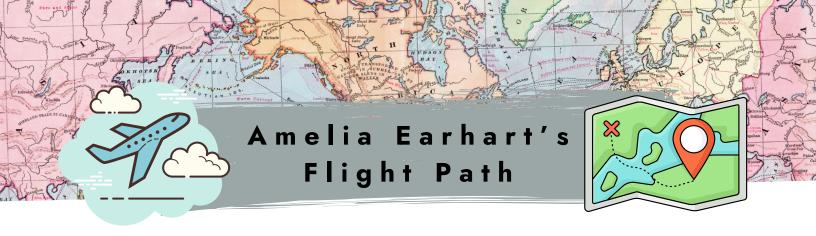
Gather students to reflect on what they learned about Amelia's determination and how they can apply that in their own lives. Encourage them to share their drawings and what they wrote in their "Flight Passports."

Learning Outcomes

- Students will recognize Amelia Earhart as a pioneering aviator and learn key milestones in her life.
- Students will understand the concepts of determination and perseverance through discussions and activities.
- Students will express their learning creatively through art, poetry, and song.

This interactive lesson combines storytelling, art, and poetry to engage second graders in learning about Amelia Earhart's incredible journey!





Objective

Students will learn about Amelia Earhart's achievements while applying math and science concepts related to flight, distance, and measurements.

Materials Needed

- Large world map or globe
- Ruler or measuring tape
- Graph paper
- Colored pencils
- Scale (for measuring distances)
- Printable flight path worksheet
- Markers
- A simple scale for distance (e.g., 1 inch = 100 miles)

Review of Amelia Earhart

Start with a brief review of Amelia Earhart's life, her achievements, and her contributions to aviation. Highlight her historic flights, including her solo transatlantic journey.

Exploring Flight Paths

Show students a large world map or globe. Point out the locations relevant to Amelia's flights, such as Newfoundland, Wales, and other significant places. Explain how pilots plan flight paths based on distance and safety.

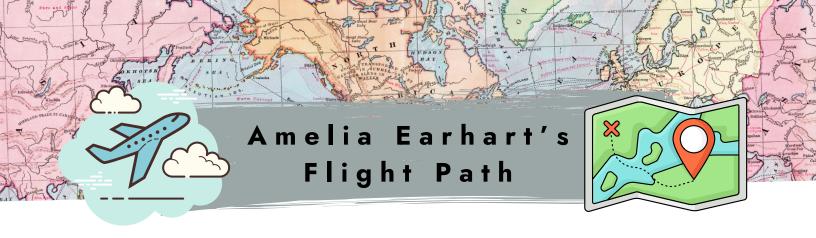
Math Integration

Introduce the concept of measuring distances. Using the scale, explain how to convert distances on the map to real-life distances. For example, if the distance between Newfoundland and Wales is represented as 2 inches on the map, discuss how this translates to miles using the scale.

Create a Flight Path

• Provide students with a printable flight path worksheet that includes a simple map of Amelia's route from Newfoundland to Wales





Create a Flight Path (continued)

Have students use a ruler to measure the distance on the map. They can then use the scale to calculate the
actual distance. For example, if the map shows a distance of 2 inches, they would convert that to 200 miles.

Graphing Distances

After calculating distances, have students create a simple bar graph on graph paper to represent the
different distances of various flight paths Amelia took. They can label the axes and color in their graphs for
clarity.

Science Discussion

- Discuss the science behind flying. Explain concepts like lift, thrust, drag, and gravity in simple terms. Relate these concepts to how airplanes work and why they can fly.
- If possible, conduct a simple experiment by making paper airplanes and testing how changes in design affect flight distance. Students can measure how far their airplanes fly using a measuring tape.

Reflection and Sharing

- Have students share their graphs and discuss what they learned about distances and flight paths.
 - Ask questions like:
 - "Why do you think pilots need to calculate distances before a flight?"
 - "How does understanding science help pilots like Amelia?"

Learning Outcomes

- Students will learn about Amelia Earhart's contributions to aviation.
- Students will apply math skills by measuring distances and calculating real-life equivalents.
- Students will understand basic science concepts related to flight.

This STEM lesson integrates math and science while celebrating Amelia Earhart's legacy, making it an engaging and educational experience for second graders!



Resources

- https://airandspace.si.edu/stories/editorial/five-things-you-may-not-know-about-amelia-earhart
- https://airandspace.si.edu/collection-objects/1903-wright-flyer/nasm_A19610048000#:~:text=After%20building%20and%20testing%20three,852%20ft)%20in%2059%20seconds.
- https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/earhart-timeline/
- https://airandspace.si.edu/explore/stories/evolution-commercial-flying-experience
- https://npg.si.edu/exhibit/earhart/pop-ups/02.html
- https://airandspace.si.edu/stories/editorial/amelia-earhart-viva-la-vega
- https://airandspace.si.edu/explore/stories/amelia-earhart
- https://www.ameliaearhart.com/achievements/

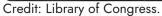
Amelia Earhart

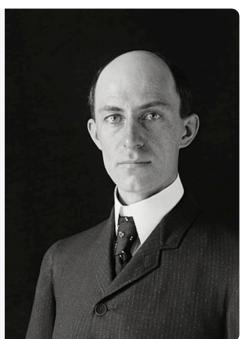


Credit: National Women's History Museum.

Wright Brothers







Wright Flyer



Credit: Wikipedia.

Young Amelia



Credit: Wikipedia.

Progression of Planes



Credit: Canva Pro.

Cargo



Credit: Canva Pro.

Red Cross Symbol



Credit: The American Red Cross.

Stunt Show



Credit: Canva Pro.

Amelia and Family



Credit: Wikipedia.

Amelia's Jobs



Credit: Canva Pro.

Canary



Credit: Canva Pro.

Altitude



Credit: Canva Pro.

Amelia's Challenges



Credit: Canva Pro.

Flight



Credit: Canva Pro.

Plane Issues



Credit: Canva Pro.

Cheering Crowd



Credit: Canva Pro.

Notes
