

In this unit, students will be introduced to the history of aviation and to aviators from different time periods, countries, and cultures.

### What's the story?

Students will study the **science of flight** from the physics concept of **lift**. They will explore the **successes and failures** in the construction of the first flying machines and will learn about the **social impact** of flight on the world.

### What will my student learn?

Students will learn about the **successes and failures early aviators faced** to achieve their goal of flying. They will connect this to what they have already learned about early Greek civilizations, Greek myths, and the westward expansion. As they explore the historic figures of aviation, students will learn how **determination and drive** can help people **achieve their goal**.

Students will learn and practice **research and inquiry skills**, identifying questions they would like to ask to learn more about aviators. They will let their research skills take flight as they explore **key figures and concepts** from the world of aviation by creating **informational texts** that will be compiled into an **Aviators Hall of Fame**.

### Conversation starters

Ask your student questions about the unit to promote discussion and continued learning:

1. What were some of the earliest attempts humans made at flying?  
**Follow up:** Were these attempts successful?
2. What does an airplane need to stay in the air?  
**Follow up:** What were some discoveries that the earliest aviators made as they were trying to fly?
3. Who were some of the aviators you learned about in this domain?  
**Follow up:** How were they similar? How were they different?
4. Some of the aviators you learned about had many failed attempts at flying. Who were some of these aviators?  
**Follow up:** Why do you think they kept on trying?