

Flight

Pop Bottle Rocket

Fill a 16-oz. plastic bottle half way up with concentrated lemon juice. Place a sheet of paper towel on a table. Pour 4 tablespoons of baking soda into the middle of the paper towel. Pull up the sides of the paper towel into a pouch, and wrap a rubber band around the pouch to secure it. Tape a 6-inch piece of string onto the end of a standard-sized cork. Place the half-filled bottle onto the ground-slip the paper towel pouch into the bottle, and place the cork into the opening of the bottle quickly. When the paper towel dissolves, the baking soda will be released quickly. The baking soda will react with the lemon juice, cause gas to be released quickly, and will pop the cork into the air like a rocket.

Candy Airplane

Supplies are: thin rubber band, peppermint Life Savers, Smarties, cinnamon gum, fun stickers. Thread the rubber band through the holes of two Life Savers then balance the roll of Smarties between the holes, the rubber band. For wings, balance the Smarties, stick of gum on top, perpendicular to the up and pull the rubber band and over each side of the gum to hold it all in place. Decorate the wings with tiny heart-shaped stickers or a message.



High Flying Books for Kids

J-EASY

Everything Goes in the Air by Brian Biggs
Hot Air Henry by Mary Calhoun
Zephyr Takes Flight by Steve Light
If I Never Forever Endeavor by Holly Meade
Hot Air: The (Mostly) True Story of the First Hot-Air Balloon Ride by Marjorie Priceman

Web Picks

Abundant and accurate Flight websites for interactive learning, experiments, and history are at your fingertips! Taking off with the NASA Kid's Page grc.nasa.gov/www/k-12/JUEET/StudentSite/historyoflight.html sends your students into the exciting discovery and history of aeronautics, dynamics of flight, UJET, fun and games, and even lesson plans for the teacher.

Further exploration at The Library of Congress loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/wb-timeline.html finds your student discovering treasures of flight and an aeronautics timeline. Access the Library of Congress' variety of pages for historically accurate and interesting information and exhibits.

The Century of Flight website century-of-flight.net/ offers the enthusiast over twenty-five web pages to explore with subjects including balloons, war and flight, Wright Brothers and others, barnstormers and racers, airline history, and aviation technology advancement. The Century of Flight home page also springboards to seven other exciting sites and museums. Finally, on our own PPLD Kids Web ppld.org access Homework Help then Space for thirteen websites and science databases. Take flight into discovery and adventure as your family explores the Web Picks this spring!

Nonfiction

629.13252 O18Y
You Can Afford to be a Pilot: A Guide on How to Become a Pilot and Fly for Fun on a Middle-Income Budget
by Timothy S. O'Connor

629.435 D311

Deep Space: The NASA Mission Reports
by Robert Godwin

343.097 B219W

Who Owns the Sky?: The Struggle to Control Airspace from the Wright brothers on
by Stuart Banner

629.130092 W952HE

First Flight: the Wright Brothers and the Invention of the Airplane
by T. A. Heppenheimer

Fiction

Ask the Passengers: A Novel by A. S. King

Leviathan by Scott Westerfeld

Airborn by Kenneth Oppel

Starclimber by Kenneth Oppel

Have Space Suit – Will Travel by Robert A. Heinlein

We hope you'll file this issue for future use!

J-Fiction

Sylvie and the Songman by Tim Binding
The Adventures of Vin Fiz by Clive Cussler
The Girl Who Could Fly by Victoria Forester
Windblowne by Stephen Messer
Bird by Rita Murphy

J-Nonfiction

J 533.62 P243S
The Science of Air: Projects and Experiments with Air and Flight
by Steve Parker
J 736.982 B776O
Origami Paper Airplanes by Didier Boursin
J 45.592 M54F
The Flying Machine Book: Build and Launch 35 Rockets, Gliders, Helicopters, Boomerangs, and More
by Bobby Mercer
J 811.54 L674SK
Skywriting: Poems to Fly by J. Patrick Lewis

Tell us what you think! We welcome topical ideas to enhance your educational endeavors. Contact gsohns@ppld.org.

Taking Flight

Let your imagination soar this spring with activities and outings focused on the miracle of flight! Try a new approach to science, math, and physics through rocketry. The Colorado Springs Rocket Society has rocket launches regularly both for members of the club and for the public. The details can be found on their website at cosrocs.org.

If you're looking for something a little less explosive, homemadesimple.com has instructions for creating your own kites. Learn the basics of flight while creating artistic toys for each student. Even if you choose to purchase kites instead of making them yourself, kite flying is an excellent way to introduce flight and even cultural studies into your free time. Kite fighting is a popular pastime in many parts of the world. For older students who want more of a challenge, an overview on how to fly fighter kites (and kites in general) can be found on gombergkites.com. The guide explains basic techniques and scientific concepts of kite flight.

For a more historical look at flight, try the National Museum of World War II Aviation right here in Colorado Springs. For information about tours and admission prices, visit their website: worldwarIIaviation.org. Peterson Air and Space Museum also offers an educational experience focused specifically on local aviation history, and admission is free! This museum is on Peterson AFB and it can be accessed without a military I.D., but you will have to call and make arrangements in advance. For more details about access or tours of the museum visit petemuseum.org or call 719-556-4915.

Buffalo Bird Girl: A Hidatsa Story

by S. D. Nelson (2012)

Illustrations like a picture book, mixed with photographs of the same scenes that Buffalo Girl would have seen, and the author's notes about growing up with a Lakota mother who practiced traditional ways, this book is a treat.

Picture book biography, history of 1800's American plains, ages 8 - 12

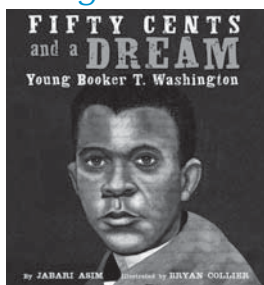
Fifty Cents and a Dream:

Young Booker T. Washington

by Jabari Asim (2012)

Simple picture book, with watercolor/collage illustrations carrying the story that is written with little text, this is the story of the childhood, and the work that Booker T. Washington put into learning to read and write.

Picture book biography, 1800s America, ages 6 - 12



Black Jack: The Ballad of Jack Johnson

by Charles R. Smith Jr. (2010)

Jack Johnson was born the free child of former slaves, in 1878. He was bullied as a child, attended school for only five years, worked at many careers before he found his own gift as a boxer. Blacks and whites never fought one another in the ring until Jack Johnson pushed the envelope, and repeatedly challenged the white champ to a match. Written as

a ballad, with rhyming text, there is "the rest of the story" in the end notes.

Picture book biography, 1800s America, ages 6 - 12

Just Ducks!

by Nicola Davies

Learn a little bit about mallard ducks with your preschooler, in this story/science combination.

Science - zoology, ages 3 - 6



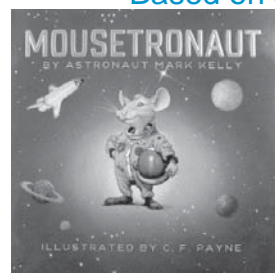
Mousetronaut

Based on a (Partially) True Story

by Astronaut Mark Kelly

Picture books can be such treats, like this one, which combines a real story with author embellishments to make a really good story.

Science - space exploration, ages 3 - 10



Little-Known Secrets



A trusted biography resource!

Did you know that Amelia Earhart paid for her first flying lessons by driving a sand and gravel truck? Or that shortly after her first solo flight in 1922 she set a new altitude record of 14,000 feet? Thanks to Pikes Peak Library District's amazing database, Biography in Context, there's so much to learn! Is it time to write a report on an important historical figure? Is your family researching a current politician, artist, or musician? When it comes to reliable and easy to access information Biography in Context is an excellent resource to access current biographical information.

Search results not only include a synopsis of the figure's life and achievements, but also include related news articles, reference materials, photos, audio files, magazine articles, academic journals, websites, and videos! You can watch Martin Luther King Jr. give a speech or Michael Jordan make a three-point shot. Plus, each resource has a full bibliographic citation at the bottom of the page.

Each resource is rated as beginner, intermediate, or advanced content level (based on Lexile measurements), so there's something for everyone. Once you've found a resource you'd like to use, Biography in Context allows you to bookmark, download, email, share through social media, print, and translate a source.

To find Biography in Context, first visit the library's website at ppld.org, and then click on Kids Web and Homework Help. Next, click on Biographies and scroll down to the databases section where you'll find Biography in Context listed.

Homeschool Programs

Homeschool Science Lab
Use PPLD's science equipment for parent-assigned experiments. Watch for news about occasional special lessons and programs planned during lab time. Contact Cara at cramsey@ppld.org for more information.

1st and 3rd Fridays of each month
1 - 3 p.m. • East Library

Booktalks during the Science Lab in March!

A booktalk is a 1- to 5-minute spirited "advertisement" for a book with a hook to grab the students' interest. Grades 5 - 12 are encouraged to participate. Questions? Email Cara at cramsey@ppld.org.

Fri., March 1 • 2:30 - 3 p.m.
We will explain how a booktalk works and present some examples

Fri., March 15 • 2 - 3 p.m.
Students will have the opportunity to present their own booktalks to other homeschool students and families.

Homeschool Art Show Is Here April 1 - 30

(This art show will not be juried.)

March 24 - 30 • Homeschooled students of all ages can submit one drawing, painting, photo, sculpture, etc. to the Children's Department at East Library.

Sun., April 28 • 2 - 3 p.m. • We'll have a reception for artists, their families and friends.

Homeschool Lunch Bunch
There's a different family learning experience every time. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy while socializing with other homeschooling families after the program.

Fountain Library
1st Wednesday of each month
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
(Contact Jessica at jfreeland@ppld.org for more information.)

High Prairie Library
4th Wednesday of each month
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
(Contact Julie at jsimmons@ppld.org for more information, or call 260-3650 to register.)

Rockrimmon Library
3rd Thursday of each month
1 - 3 p.m.
(Contact Tina at tlewis@ppld.org for more information, or call 593-8000 to register.)

Novel Ideas

Join other homeschooled teens for a snack and discussion on a great book! Contact Sandy at shancock@ppld.org or 531-6333, x2314 for the month's book title.

Penrose Library
4th Wednesday of each month
2 - 3:30 p.m.

Other Events & Programs

TArt — Teen Art competition

Artists in grades 6 - 12 are encouraged to enter your work in TArt, a teen art competition juried by PPLD's teen advisory groups. Your work needs to reflect this year's theme, *Fantastical Faire*:

Citizens of all fantastical worlds, step up to create a work of art to add to our menagerie of imaginings! Bridge the gap between the world you live in and the one where your dreams reside. Whether you dream of manga, steampunk, magic, or your own unique universe, use your artistic talents to fashion a portal to the homeland of your imagination.

Submissions will be accepted on March 11 and 12 at several (but not all!) PPLD libraries. Visit ppld.org for submission and registration information.

Fun Spring Break Programs for kids March 25 - 29

Enjoy Neil McIntyre's awesome hip-hop, Denise Gard (and her dog, Sienna), Science Matters, and more! Check with your local library for dates and times.

Teen Volunteers Needed for Summer Reading!

Looking for a great opportunity to earn some community service hours? We will need teen volunteers at all PPLD locations to register children for the Summer Reading Program and give out prizes they've earned. Applications will be available the end of March.

Study Buddies

Come join this free, drop-in program. Teen volunteers help students in kindergarten through fifth grade with homework or reading practice. This program runs through May 2, 2013.

Tuesdays • 6:30 - 8 p.m. • East Library
Call 531-6333, x1407 or x1403 for more information.

Thursdays • 4 - 5:30 p.m. • High Prairie Library
Call 260-3650 for more information.

Featured Homeschool Family: The Browns

How old are your children?
We have three children. Our daughter Alexiah is 9 years old and our twins Jadarius and Ladarius are 7 years old.

Why did you decide to homeschool?
Our children attended public school for a few years and we were not satisfied. We began researching homeschooling and fell in love with the idea. We're currently in our second year homeschooling and plan to continue throughout high school.

What curriculum do you use?
In the beginning we used the Abeka curriculum but that didn't last long. We then began using the library for resources and began our own curriculum that we still use today. We attend lots of events, go to local farms, visit/support several charities and use the world as our classroom.

What does your homeschool day look like?
Our homeschool day is never the same. We spend most of our day out in the community on field trips and attending enrichment classes. We work on special assignments at any time of day and love the flexibility homeschooling has given us.

Does your husband support/help you in a specific way in your homeschooling efforts?
My husband is extremely supportive! He has completely taken over homeschool P.E. For example, he has taught our children swimming, basketball, racquetball, skating, etc. Also, he exceeds in math and has come up with clever techniques for our children to understand.

What are your children's interests and future goals?
Alexiah's favorite subject is foreign language and she wants to be in the fashion industry. Jadarius enjoys art and wants to be a veterinarian. Ladarius loves reading and wants to be an animal trainer.



Would you like to be a Featured Family? Contact Gail at gsohns@ppld.org.