



## AMELIA EARHART: A WOMAN WITH A DREAM

**Learning Objectives:** The students will...

1. Identify the contributions of Amelia Earhart to the field of aviation.
2. Understand the accomplishments of Amelia Earhart as a woman.
3. Apply critical thinking skills by sequencing information.
4. Verbalize ideas, thoughts, and conclusions.

**TEKS:** 2.14A, 2.15A&B, 2.16E

**Materials Needed:** Copies of the Amelia Earhart Bio Card for each student (or a Children's literature book about Amelia Earhart), multiple sets of the Event Cards.

**Vocabulary:** accomplishment, aviation, childhood, graduated, navigator, pilot, proposed, publisher, solo

**Teaching Strategy:**

1. To introduce the lesson, ask students to raise their hands if they have ever flown in an airplane. Have students share their flying experiences with the class.
2. Ask if anyone knows who Amelia Earhart was. Have students share what they know about her. Tell students that they are going to learn about this brave and adventurous woman and how she became one of the most famous female pilots in the world.
3. To familiarize students with the life of Amelia Earhart, give them a biography card of The Life of Amelia Earhart. (The teacher may want to read the class *A Picture Book of Amelia Earhart* by David A. Adler or another children's book about Amelia Earhart.)
4. Discuss any or all of the following questions:
  - a. In what ways was Amelia's childhood like yours? How was it different?
  - b. Compare the airplanes from the early 1900s to the planes that are flown today. How are they alike? How are they different?
  - c. After Amelia became a pilot, she made several crash landings. Why do you think she kept on flying?
  - d. What do you think was Amelia's greatest accomplishment as a woman? Why?
  - e. What do you think was her greatest accomplishment in the field of aviation? Why?
  - f. What were some of Amelia's characteristics? What was her most important characteristic? Why?
  - g. What do you think happened to Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan and their airplane?
5. Using the Event Cards, have each student or pairs of students arrange the cards in chronological order. Verify the correct sequence with students.

**Extension Activities:**

1. Using a set of Event Cards, separate each picture and descriptive phrase by cutting them apart. Mix the cards up and distribute one to each student in the class. Have students find their match.
2. Have students research the life of Amelia Earhart and add additional cards to the Event Cards. Students should insert their new cards in the correct order chronologically. (A class timeline could be mounted on the wall of the classroom.)

**Extension for Gifted/Talented:**

Have students complete the following analogy: Amelia Earhart was like \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_ . Students should put their analogy on a poster and include an illustration.

# THE LIFE OF AMELIA EARHART (1897-1937)



Amelia Earhart was born in Atchison, Kansas, on July 24, 1897. While growing up, she played many sports that boys played such as baseball and football. She even hunted with her own rifle. When she was seven, she saw her first roller coaster. She then built her own roller coaster. She made the tracks out of wood and used a wooden crate with wheels as the car.

When she was eleven, Amelia Earhart saw her first airplane. At the time, she thought it was just “a thing of rusty wire and wood.”

Amelia graduated from Hyde Park High School at the age of seventeen. During the next few years she was a nurse’s aide and cared for wounded World War I soldiers, attended college, and was a social worker.

In 1920 Amelia took her first airplane ride. After that flight she said, “As soon as we left the ground, I knew I myself had to fly.” Soon Amelia took her first flying lesson. She worked at a phone company to earn money to pay for more flying lessons and bought her own plane six months later.

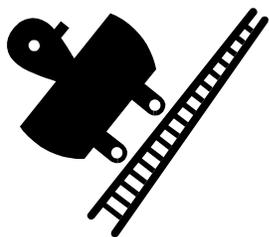
As a woman pilot, Amelia achieved many “firsts.” In 1922 she flew higher than any other female pilot. Six years later she was the first female passenger to cross the Atlantic Ocean in a plane. The successful flight made her famous, and she wrote a book about the trip. George Putman, a publisher, began arranging speaking engagements for Amelia and became her adviser. He proposed to Amelia several times before she decided marriage was for her. They were finally married on February 7, 1931.

In 1932 Earhart was the second person after Charles Lindbergh, and the first woman to fly alone (solo) across the Atlantic Ocean. Three years later she was also the first person to fly solo from California to Hawaii and from Los Angeles to Mexico City.

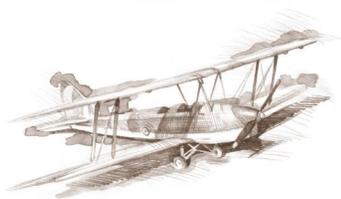
Amelia Earhart’s last flight was in 1937 when she attempted to fly around the world. She and her navigator, Fred Noonan, took off from Miami, Florida, heading east. They successfully flew to South America, Africa, and all the way to Australia. Unfortunately, after they left from New Guinea heading to Howland Island, they were never heard from again. The area was searched many times, but Earhart, Noonan, and the plane were never found.



**Amelia Earhart was born on July 24, 1897, in Atchison, Kansas.**



**When she was seven-years-old, Amelia built her own roller coaster.**



**In 1908 Amelia saw her first airplane.**



**Amelia graduated from Hyde Park High School at the age of 17.**



**Amelia took her first flying lesson in January of 1921.**



**Amelia became the first female passenger to cross the Atlantic Ocean by air.**



**Amelia Earhart and George Putnam were married on February 7, 1931.**



**Amelia was the second person after Charles Lindbergh and the first woman to fly alone across the Atlantic Ocean.**



**In 1932 Amelia was the first woman to fly solo from Hawaii to California and from Los Angeles to Mexico City.**



**Amelia Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, began a flight around the world. Their plane disappeared near Howland Island and no one ever found them.**