



"The Wright Brothers Musical"

Teacher's Guide

The "[Wright Brothers Musical](#)" assembly is a two-performer stage production that uses music, humor, visuals, props, and audience participation to tell the story of the invention of the airplane. We encourage teachers to augment what the students see and hear at the assembly performance with some of the following discussions and activities.

Pre-Assembly Teaching Strategies:

- For some students an assembly may be the only opportunity to see live theater. Proper audience behavior should be discussed. For instance, is it OK to laugh, shout out, sing along, get up and move around, talk to your neighbor, or talk on a cell phone?
- Discuss the vocabulary of the theatre: character, setting, conflict, audience, motivation, props, stage areas, and blocking.
- The word "dream" (as in "something hoped for") is used in this performance. Students should understand this difference in contrast to "mental images during sleep".

Vocabulary:

inventor; Thomas Edison; biplane; attitude; heavier than air; engineer; 1903; Dayton Ohio; Kitty Hawk; glider

Post Assembly Teaching Strategies:

- Review the theater definitions character, setting, conflict, audience, motivation, props, stage areas, and blocking and ask for examples of these from the assembly performance.
- Ask students to identify parts of the performance of the story on stage: who, what, where, when, and why.
- Ask students for examples of inventions from the past. What problem did each invention solve?
- Ask why the Wright Brothers went to Kitty Hawk, North Carolina to test fly their airplane.
- Discuss what birds and airplanes have in common.
- Discuss how the invention of the airplane changed people's way of life.

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For **kindergarten** and **first grade**:

[Connect the Dots](#)

[Coloring page](#)

As a bonus, **kindergarten** and **first grade** teachers may treat your students to fun videos produced by our company.

These FREE 3-minute YouTube videos (featuring puppet characters and Mark and Obediah from the assembly) help TK-first grade students build vocabulary.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UClecYgbRar100gGjLlwOrGw>



[About the Performers](#)

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