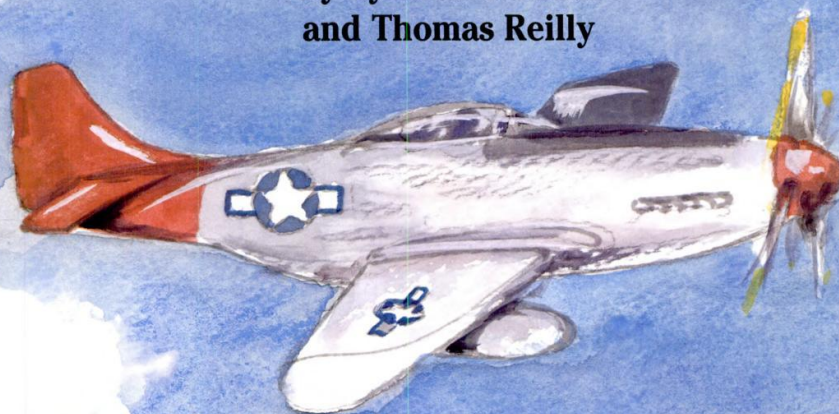


Kindergarten & 1st Grades Lesson Plan
Keep Moving Forward
The Tuskegee Airmen

The
Tuskegee
Airmen
Story

By Lynn M. Homan
and Thomas Reilly



Illustrated by Rosalie M. Shepherd



PELICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY
GRETNA 2008



WREATHS
— across —
AMERICA

Wreaths Across America

Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: K & 1st	Lesson: Keep Moving Forward; The Tuskegee Airmen; Black History Month; Veterans Day

<p>OBJECTIVES: CCSSELA SLK. 2. Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood. CCSSELA RL. 1.1: Ask and answer questions about key details in a text. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.1.7 Use illustrations and details in a story to describe its characters, setting, or events.</p>	<p>STRATEGIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing/Coloring <input type="checkbox"/> Writing Practice <input type="checkbox"/> Think/Pair/Share <input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Questions <input type="checkbox"/> Small Groups <input type="checkbox"/> Large Group
<p>MATERIALS:</p>	<p>Computer/laptop; internet (with access to YouTube); Smart Board; copies of the Tuskegee Airmen Writing Practice Worksheet; copies of <i>The Tuskegee Airmen Story</i> Oral Comprehension Questions; copies of Retell the Story, The Tuskegee Airmen Story Through Pictures; Tuskegee Airmen Heroes on a Mission Coloring Page</p>
<p>Engage: Hook the students</p>	<p>Explain: In today’s lesson, you will learn about some very brave men and women. They volunteered for the army during World War II because they wanted to serve their country and help win the war. The United States and the United States military was segregated then-people were kept from going to certain places and kept from having certain jobs because of the color of their skin. The Tuskegee Airmen helped to break barriers in the country and the military based on skin color.</p> <p>We celebrate the many accomplishments of the Tuskegee Airmen on Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day on the 4th Thursday of March each year. We also celebrate and honor them during Black History Month, on Veterans Day and on Memorial Day.</p>
<p>Explore: Students make sense of a concept through observations.</p>	<p>Play the YouTube video, <i>The Tuskegee Airmen Story</i>, Authors-Lynn M. Homan and Thomas Reilly, Illustrator-Rosalie Shepherd https://youtu.be/TREQAobur0k</p> <p>Hand out copies of the Tuskegee Airmen Writing Practice Worksheet. Read the worksheet aloud. Give students time to complete the writing practice worksheet. Read or handout Comprehension Questions. Allow the students to answer the questions orally.</p> <p>1st Grade-Hand out Retell the Story, <i>The Tuskegee Airmen Story</i> Through Pictures. Allow students time to complete the assignment.</p> <p>Hand out copies of the Tuskegee Airmen Heroes on a Mission Coloring Page. Allow the students time to complete the coloring activity.</p>
<p>Explain: Teacher introduces formal vocabulary and language to students.</p>	<p>segregated Army Air Corps Red Tails Tuskegee, Alabama Air Force accomplishments Bomber planes</p>
<p>Elaborate: Students apply what they have learned.</p>	<p>Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.</p> <p>1.1: Ask and answer questions about key details in a text. RL.1.7 Use illustrations and details in a story to describe its characters, setting, or events.</p>
<p>Evaluate: assessment.</p>	<p>Teachers will choose which activities to use as formal and informal assessments.</p>
<p>Enrichment/Service-Learning Project</p>	<p>Just as the Tuskegee Airmen served their country during World War II, students will brainstorm a way to serve their local community in honor of the Tuskegee Airmen. See a list of potential projects on the last page.</p>

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The Tuskegee Airmen Writing Practice Worksheet

The Tuskegee Airmen

were the first black

pilots in the United

States Army Air

Corps. They joined

the army during

World War II to

help win the war.

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It was not easy to

become a pilot, so

they had to work

very hard.

Not all of the

Tuskegee Airmen

were pilots. Some

were mechanics and

worked on planes.

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Others were cooks

and prepared the

food. Some were

men, and some were

women. Two things

they had in common

was a desire to

serve their country

and win the war.

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The Tuskegee Airmen Story Comprehension Questions

1. What did Joshua, Krysta and their friend Charlene find when they were playing at Grandmother's house?

2. How did Granddad explain to the children what a "war" is?

3. How old was Granddad when World War II started?

4. According to Granddad, what did every American want to do during the war?

5. What did Granddad do to help win the war?

What is the Army Air Corps called today?

6. Why did Granddad have to wait to fly planes?

7. How did Granddad explain what segregation was?

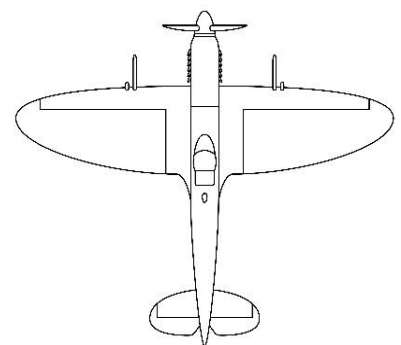
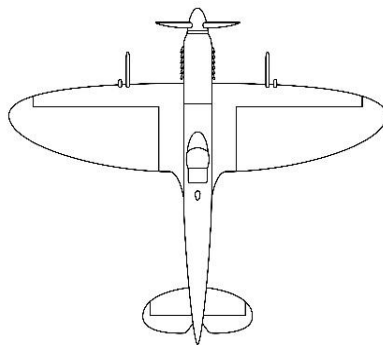
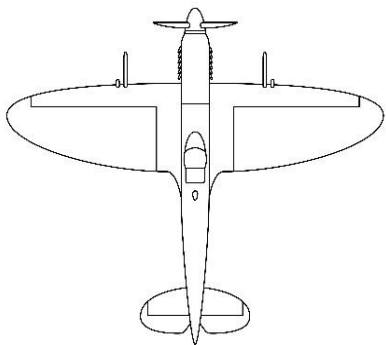
8. How did the Tuskegee Airmen help end segregation?

9. In 1941, a flight school was established in Tuskegee, Alabama for African American pilots. What kinds of things did the pilots have to learn?

Wreaths Across America Lesson Plan

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10. What kinds of jobs did women do at Tuskegee during the war?
11. All of the Tuskegee Airmen were not pilots, what other jobs did they do?
12. What was the nickname of the Tuskegee Airmen?
13. What was the biggest job of the Tuskegee Airmen?
14. Why was Grandmother considered a hero during the war even though she did not receive any medals?
15. How did the Tuskegee Airmen prove that African Americans had the ability to be successful not just as military pilots but in many different ways?



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The Tuskegee Airmen Story Comprehension Questions

Answer Key

1. What did Joshua, Krysta and their friend Charlene find when they were playing at Grandmother's house? **The children found some of their granddad's gear from when he was a Tuskegee Airman during World War II.**
2. How did Granddad explain to the children what a "war" is? **Granddad asked Joshua if he knew how sometimes he and his sister would fight with one another or how they would sometimes have disagreements with their friends? Then he told them a war was a great big disagreement between countries or groups of people.**
3. How old was Granddad when World War II started? **Grandfather was 20 years old.**
4. According to Granddad, what did every American want to do during the war? **According to Granddad, every American young and old wanted to do something to help the United States win the war.**
5. What did Granddad do to help win the war? **Granddad joined the Army Air Corps.** What is the Army Air Corps called today? **The United States Air Force.**
6. Why did Granddad have to wait to fly planes? **The men in charge of the American military during that time did not believe that black people could do things like fly planes.**
7. How did Granddad explain what segregation was? **Granddad explained to Krysta that during that time, African Americans were not allowed to go certain places or do certain things that white people could do. They could not have some of the same jobs, drink out of the same water fountains or eat at the same places in restaurants.**
8. How did the Tuskegee Airmen help end segregation? **The Tuskegee Airmen proved African Americans could fly planes and do a lot of different jobs really well, which helped to change things.**
9. In 1941, a flight school was established in Tuskegee, Alabama for African American pilots. What kinds of things did the pilots have to learn? **The pilots had to learn about weather conditions, how to read maps and military procedures.**

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10. What kinds of jobs did women do at Tuskegee during the war? **The women worked many different jobs during the war. They worked in offices, as nurses, rigging parachutes, they worked as guards on the base, and some even worked on airplanes.**

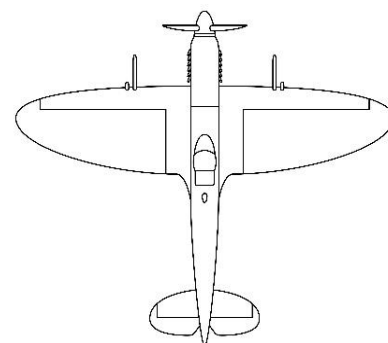
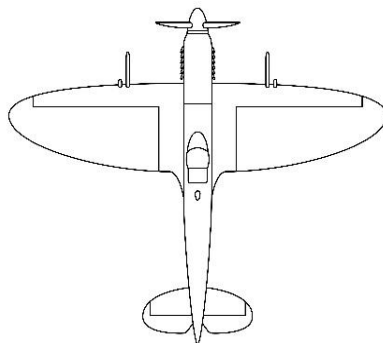
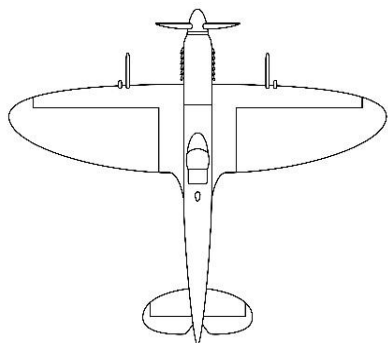
11. All of the Tuskegee Airmen were not pilots, what other jobs did they do? **Some of the Airmen were trained as mechanics, some worked in the offices, some were cooks and others loaded the weapons.**

12. What was the nickname of the Tuskegee Airmen? **The Tuskegee Airmen were nicknamed the Red Tails, because the tails of their planes were painted bright red.**

13. What was the biggest job of the Tuskegee Airmen? **The biggest job of the Tuskegee Airmen was to protect the bomber planes.**

14. Why was Grandmother considered a hero during the war even though she did not receive any medals? **Everybody that helped America to win the war was a hero. Some people fought in battles overseas and some people fought for freedoms at home.**

15. How did the Tuskegee Airmen prove that African Americans had the ability to be successful not just as military pilots but in many different ways? **The Tuskegee Airmen never gave up and they always worked hard to be the very best they could be.**



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Retell the Story, The Tuskegee Airmen Story Through Pictures

Directions: Draw pictures in the spaces below for each part of the book, *The Tuskegee Airmen Story*.

Beginning

Middle

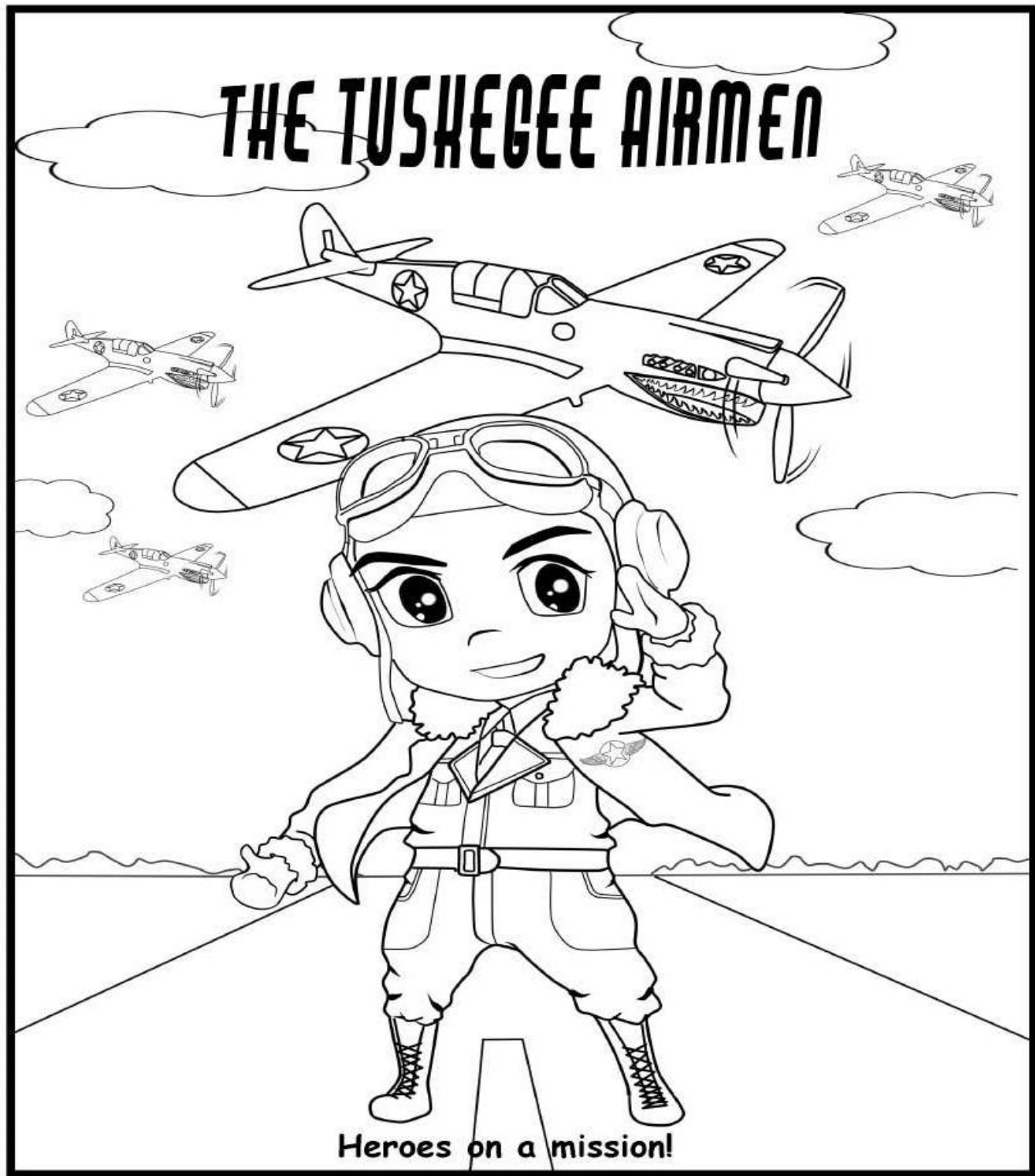
End



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African American Legends for Little Learners ©

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Grades K-5 Action Plans

1. Draw pictures or make cards for servicemen and women overseas or veterans at a local VA Hospital or VA Home. [Operation Gratitude](#) sends over 250,000 packages to Servicemen and Women, and First Responders annually, the link above provides guidelines for participation in their program.
2. Make cards for Senior citizens in your community for the various holidays. Teachers/Parents can help their children by:
 - * contacting local nursing homes, senior centers and VA Homes to determine the procedure they have for community involvement, the numbers of residents, etc.
 - * setting up a calendar as a reminder to your child letting them know when certain holidays are coming.
 - * providing materials: crayons, paper, coloring sheets for younger students
 - * setting up a time for delivery of the cards to the facility, or help your child mail the cards at the Post Office.
3. Decorate placemats to be used for Senior citizens during the holidays with a special note or picture! Many agencies deliver meals to Seniors who have mobility problems and are on a fixed income. Teachers/Parents can help their children by:
 - * contacting local agencies that provide meals for Seniors, coordinate with the agency to provide placemats for an upcoming holiday
 - * talking with your child's teacher to see if this could be a classroom project
 - * provide materials,
4. [Donate gently used or new stuffed animals](#) to a local fire department or police station to give to children in emergencies.
5. During your birthday month, donate cake mix, frosting, candles, and an age-appropriate toy in a box. Donate items to a local food pantry or school social worker for families in need of a birthday cake. Let your child decorate the bag/box with a birthday message. Parents can help their children by:
 - * contacting a local food bank or their child's school to arrange a drop-off point
 - * purchasing the items to donate
 - * taking their child to be a part of the drop-off
6. Collect school supplies, coloring books/crayons or games to donate to local homeless shelters or local children's hospitals.
 - * contacting a local food bank or their children's hospital to arrange a drop-off point
 - * purchasing the items to donate
 - * taking their child to be a part of the drop-off
7. Make a no-sew fleece blanket for a child in need with [Project Linus](#), or a Veteran in need with [Soldiers' Angels](#). Parents can help their children by:
 - * log on to the Project Linus or Soldiers' Angels to check out the specifications for the blankets,
 - * help their child purchase materials
 - * help their child make the blanket if necessary
 - * take their child to ship or deliver the blanket