



Anne Morrow Lindbergh 1906-2001

"I began these pages for myself, in order to think out my own particular pattern of living, my own individual balance of life, work and human relationships.

And since I think best with a pencil in my hand, I started naturally to write."
AML, *Gift from the Sea*

The Partnership of Anne & Charles-

After they were married, Anne and Charles were real explorers as they made flights over the northernmost parts of Alaska and Siberia to discover a way to fly from the United States to the continent of Asia. Many of the routes that they plotted in the 1930's are still in use today.

In 1930, Anne Morrow Lindbergh became the first woman in America to earn her glider pilot's license. She later earned her pilot's license. Anne took on the challenge of learning to be a good radio operator and an excellent navigator. Anne's continued bravery and accomplishments rose to Charles' expectations- they truly were a team.

Over the years, Charles and Anne flew over cliff dwellings and pueblos in New Mexico, cheetahs and elephants in Africa, and whales breaking the surface in the ocean. Charles and Anne used the amazing idea of flight and an airplane to see what had never before been seen on the land and the sea, from the air. As the years went on they began to notice a change in the Earth below as they looked down from above. The lakes were not as clean and some of the trees had been cut down, there were less wild animals to see and people were there in their place.



An ardent diarist, Anne chronicled their lives throughout all of their travels. She wrote about everyday and, truly momentous, things. In her treasured diaries and letters she wrote about their feelings, beliefs, joys and sorrows. Her words have touched and consoled so many of us, especially those who have lost loved-ones.

Diary entry on why she writes from 1941 War Within and Without:

"One writes to think, to pray, to analyze. One writes to clear one's mind, to dissipate fears, to face one's doubts, to look at one's mistakes -- in order to retrieve them. One writes to capture and crystallize one's joy, but also to analyze and disperse one's gloom. Like prayer -- you go into it in more sorrow than in joy, for help, for a road back to "grace". But that gives a false impression ... My life is not that or not that alone. My life is not gloom, but joy, joy in living all the time. But the diaries are thought, and thought is not "gay". Joy expends itself in action but thought in words. And the diaries are thought rather than life."

Anne Morrow Lindbergh As a Writer....

Anne started to keep a diary of her own when she was 10 years old. A window seat was her favorite writing spot. Anne's mother read books to her and her sisters and encouraged them to write stories, plays, and poems. She continued to write when she went to Smith College.

Anne continued to keep a diary her whole life. When she first met Charles in Mexico in 1927, after Charles' famous flight, she was inspired to write a poem about flight, which won a prize. After Charles and Anne were married they went on around-the-world flights together. One of these adventures was the subject of Anne's first book, *North to the Orient*. During her life Anne published five diaries and eight other books (including poetry) and essays.

Just as her own mother had done, Anne encouraged her children to write and taught them that, **any experience worth living through was worth writing about.** At the end of her life when Anne was no longer able to write, she continued to enjoy reading and listening to poetry.

...and her children wrote....

In the introduction to *The Spirit of St. Louis*, Charles and Anne's daughter, Reeve stated, "I knew about writing, of course. Ours has always been a family of writers... writing was as routine in the household as dishwashing, with some similar aspects: it was always being done by one person or other, and it never seemed to get finished."

Not only were Anne and Charles writers, but Reeve is a writer herself, producing 14 books for children and 5 books for adults. Her sister Anne Spencer Lindbergh was also an accomplished author with ten books, as well as some wonderful poetry that were published before her too early death in 1993.

Kristina and Erik Lindbergh, grandchildren of Anne and Charles are both authors as well.

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Integrating Reading and Writing with Kids

Do the kids groan every time you say, "Today we're going to write a story"? Next time try promoting something in social or science by writing:

ads	advice columns	ballads
biographies	book jackets	blurbs
bumper stickers	cartoons	cereal box covers
couplets	character sketches	conversations
critiques	diaries	dramas
editorials	epitaphs	fables
fantasies	group stories	headlines
how-to-do-it	speeches	interviews
jokes	journals	letters
lies	magazines	menus
newspapers	obituaries	pamphlets
postcards	quotations	reactions
resumes	reviews	secrets
sequels	signs	tongue twisters
tributes	wise sayings	yarns

Source: *If You're Trying to Teach Kids to Write, You've Gotta Have This Book* by
Marjorie Frank

Journals and Poetry

Are your students stuck for journal ideas? Use these books to help them start thinking about writing in 'journal style':

- *Dear America Series* various authors
- *Catherine, Called Birdy* by Karen Cushman
- "Nothing is Impossible", said Nellie Bly by Judy Carlson

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There is a wonderful new series of books to help introduce elementary students to some of the classic poets. The series name is *Poetry for Young People*. Our library has Robert Browning, William Shakespeare, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and Robert Louis Stevenson for you to display and encourage your kids to use. After reading them, have the kids try writing in their style. Enjoy!



Resources for Teaching the Love of Writing!

- *The Mailbox Magazine*: all issues
- *Teaching Children to Write* Jane B. Hughey & Charlotte Slack
- "Let Us Dare..." *Whole Language Making the Transition* Mark Boen
- *If You're Trying to Teach Kids to Write, You've Gotta Have This Book* Marjorie Frank

Websites

<http://drawwrite.com/>

<http://www.1worldmusicandpuppets.com/teachwriting.html>

<http://www.designastudy.com/teaching/tips-1197.html>



Bulletin Board Idea!



Do some informational writing, and have the kids put up an informative display. Each child writes a brief report about a community landmark (or a science subject, or a social theme, or a person, or) and mounts it on construction paper.

Fold it in half, keeping the writing inside. Draw a picture on the lens of what is inside (local library, tiger, Revolutionary War figure, favorite author, etc.) Mount the picture-perfect projects as shown.

Source: *The Mailbox 1999-2000 Yearbook*

A Poem in Your Pocket

When I was a young teacher, a 'seasoned' teacher once told me, "always keep a poem in your pocket". When I asked what she meant she explained how a poem can calm noisy kids, bring the focus back to you, start or end a day, start or end a class. After 27 years of teaching... and carrying a poem in my pocket, I'd have to agree--
Always Keep a Poem in Your Pocket!

November
1st is
"Authors'
Day"!