

AVIATION AND AEROSPACE EDUCATION CLUBS

Many schools have sponsored an aviation or aerospace education clubs which provides the opportunity on an extracurricular basis for students to learn about the aviation/space world.

With adult leadership, their activities include academic as well as field trips and orientation flights.

A typical club might have a program as follows during the school year:

- September: Organization of the club and identify student leadership
Discussions: The nomenclature of an aircraft & what are the basics of flight
Construction of paper gliders and fly
Various types of aircraft & how they are used
History of aviation
Possible orientation flight at airport
- October: More in depth discussion of the various aircraft and how they achieve flight
Introduction to model building
A visit to the airport
Evaluation of completed models
- November: Study the nature of the atmosphere and how weather effects aviation
Weather forecasting & the instruments used
Group construction of a weather map
The concept of instrument flight
- December: Review of geographic concepts
The types of maps and charts
Types of navigation used
Have a pilot discuss both flying and navigation
- January: Discuss airways and world routes
Types of airfields used
Air traffic control and pilot communications
Airfield facilities and their function
- February: Overview of careers in aviation/space activities
Students assigned in groups to study categories of careers, education required and nature of work performed
Reports given by each group for discussion
- March: Focus upon official agencies that regulate aviation, and various organizations involved in aviation/space activities
Explore the several forms of sport flying
Visit to an aero club flying activity
Assign students a creative project which could be a collection of stories about aviators and flying, design posters, compose a poem, construct a flying model, etc.
- April: Study the history of space flight
Make a list of major space projects and the significance of each
Discuss rockets and how they work
Discuss what benefits have come about as a result of the various countries space programs
- May: Evaluate the creative project results
Prepare a school program with a display of projects
Review the year's accomplishments