

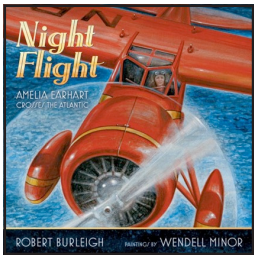


# CRUCHLEY'S COLLECTION

Diana Cruchley is an award-winning educator and author, who has taught at elementary and secondary levels. Her workshops are practical, include detailed handouts, and are always enthusiastically received.

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## NIGHT FLIGHT



Robert Burleigh,  
Simon and Shuster,  
©2011, 978-1-4169-  
6733-0

A lyrical account of Amelia Earhart's crossing of the Atlantic in 14 hours and 56 minutes starting from Newfoundland and landing in Ireland.

## FIGURES OF SPEECH

This may be a good time to introduce figures of speech such as simile, metaphor, and personification. Attached are a list of the figures of speech in the book. As a listening skill, students can make note of what is compared to each of the items. Marzano in *Instructional Strategies That Work* has said that note taking can result in a 43% increase in achievement.

The key is: 1 swoops; 2 waves; 3 mountains; 4 cities; 5 cars; 6 fists of rain; 7 the wooden Vega or airplane; 8 of fear; 9 splinters of sunlight; 10 of the open sea; 11 drenched face; 12 clouds; 13 clouds; 14 clouds; 14 clouds; 15 mountain; 16 countryside.

## AMELIA - THE MOVIE

There is a movie with Richard Gere and Hilary Swank (playing Amelia) that students might like to see. Check its rating for suitability.



## ALL ABOUT AMELIA EARHART

There is so much written about Amelia Earhart, that it is surprising how little this wonderful little book tells us about her or her amazing flight. As a listening skill, read the book a second time. Ask students to record the facts about her as the book is read aloud. (Took off from Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, May 20, 1932 in Red Vega which was a wooden plane. Partly she flew over tundra. There was a storm. Her altimeter broke. She did various tricks to stay awake - breathed salts, counted, sipped juice. She went 2026 miles in 14 hours and 56 minutes. She landed in Ireland in a farmer's field.)

Discuss what the author had in mind? Why so few facts? Why so many figures of speech? What feeling was the author trying to convey?

## TALKING WITH AMELIA EARHART

The back of the book has many quotes from Amelia Earhart that are worth discussing with students, or using as prompts for journal writing:

- Courage is the price that life exacts for granting peace.
- I prefer good mechanical work to rabbits' feet.
- I could not see. I carried on.
- Everyone has their own Atlantics to fly. Whatever you want very much to do, against the opposition of tradition, neighbourhood opinion, and so -called common sense - that is an Atlantic.
- One of my favourite phobias is that girls, especially those whose tastes aren't routine, often don't get a fair break.
- The most effective way to do it, is to do it.

## TWO ASTRONAUTS

Both astronaut Buzz Aldrin and Eileen Collins have written a tribute to the book at the back that shows what it means to them to fly. Discuss with students. Note the book is also dedicated to Eileen Collins. Why might that be?



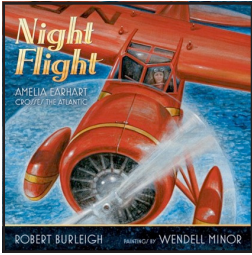
# NIGHT FLIGHT, CONT.

## FIGURES OF SPEECH

Complete each of the figures of speech with what the book is comparing it to.

### What is it?

1. swoops like a swallow \_\_\_\_\_
2. curls of cream-coloured froth \_\_\_\_\_
3. like wrinkles on the earth \_\_\_\_\_
4. like toy blocks \_\_\_\_\_
5. like ants \_\_\_\_\_
6. rain pummels the cockpit shield \_\_\_\_\_
7. wobbles on invisible hills of air \_\_\_\_\_
8. graph of fear \_\_\_\_\_
9. stabs through cloud slits \_\_\_\_\_
10. vault \_\_\_\_\_
11. like a stone mask \_\_\_\_\_
12. billowy snowfields \_\_\_\_\_
13. dragon heads \_\_\_\_\_
14. dead fish \_\_\_\_\_
15. frightening wall \_\_\_\_\_
16. green fan \_\_\_\_\_



# NIGHT FLIGHT, CONT.

## THE “AND” POEM

Because the language of this book is figurative, it makes a terrific source for an “and” poem. Students need a copy of the actual words of the story - there are very few. They then choose phrases and words that will complete the “and” poem.

### “And” Poem Pattern

The \_\_\_\_\_

5-7 and’s (choose phrases)

Go together.  
It takes a little of each to make  
\_\_\_\_\_ (The Topic)

### Columbus

The Nina, the Pinta, the Santa Maria  
And hard-biscuits, garlic, onions  
And beans, sardines in brine, salted  
meat  
And honey, dried grapes, and cheese  
And sleeping on deck in makeshift  
straw pallets  
Go together.  
It takes a little of each to make  
The first voyage of Columbus.

## JOURNAL WRITING

Having students draw from their own experience is a good way to get a journal response to a piece of writing. Here are some possibilities:

- Amelia had to stay awake a long time. Describe a time when you were up very late. Did you have to do anything special to stay awake?
- Amelia was caught in a lightning storm. Describe an experience you had with a storm?
- Amelia had to be well prepared, but still incredibly brave. Describe a time when you prepared very well for something and then did it.

## RAPID RESEARCH

While Amelia Earhart may be the most famous person to die in an airplane accident, there are many other famous people who did as well. Divide students into groups do “rapid research” on the internet - why are these people famous? When I how did they die? Be prepared to report in 1 hour. This is a quick oral language project.

1. John F. Kennedy Jr., son of President Kennedy (1999)
2. Dag Hammarskjold, UN Secretary General, 1961
3. Patsy Cline, singer, 1963
4. Tom Slick, Texas millionaire and cryptozoologist (1962)
5. Yuri Gagarin, first man in space, 1968
6. Buddy Holly, singer, 1959
7. The Red Baron, Manfred von Richtofen, German war ace, 1918
8. Philippe Cousteau, son of Jacques Cousteau (1979)
9. Audie Murphy, WWII hero and movie actor, 1971
10. Vic Morrow, movie actor, 1982