



Gliders In Nature

Introduction

This comprehensive lesson (created by NASA) is based on the book *The Dandelion Seed* by Joseph Anthony. It includes an engaging demonstration, inquiry and discovery experiments, and writing practice for letter “F” and “G.”

Materials

- The book *The Dandelion Seed*
- Images of animals and plant seeds that fly / glide
- Maple seeds (2-3 per student)
- Paper clips
- Scissors
- Crepe paper or streamers
- Whirly-bird template (available as free download)

Common Core Standards (ELA K-3)

Reading: Literature

- Key ideas and Detail: K.1, 1.1, 2.1
- Integration of Knowledge and ideas: K.7, 1.7, 2.7

Procedure

This lesson links to [NASA’s Teacher’s Guide: With You When You Fly: Aeronautics Pre-K](#), which is available free online.

Follow the detailed instructions on pages 8-23 to do one or more activities.

Next Generation Science Standards (DCI-2)

Life Science

- LS 1 – From Molecules to Organisms: Structure and Function

Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science

- ETS 1 – Engineering Design