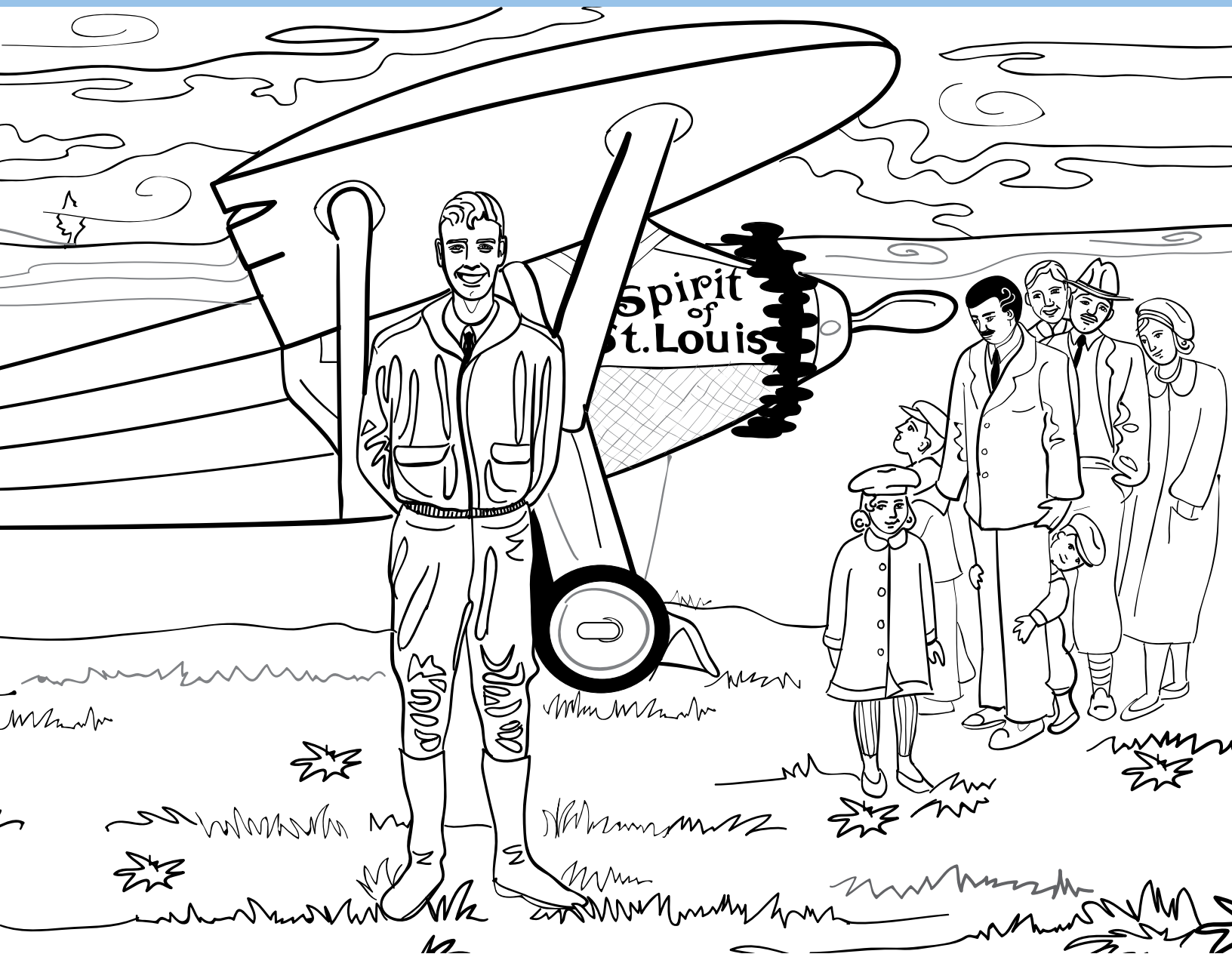


# LINDBERGH Legacy Lesson



Color Charles Lindbergh with his plane, the *Spirit of St. Louis*.

## Charles A. Lindbergh (1902-1974)

**As a young boy, Charles Lindbergh dreamed of flying up into the clouds.** At age 20, he started flying lessons and also learned to become a wing-walker, a parachute jumper and a barnstorming performer. He dazzled crowds with tricks like standing on a wing while the plane flew loops! He eventually became chief pilot on a dangerous route delivering air mail.

Lindbergh decided that he could win a \$25,000 prize offered to the first person who could fly alone, across the Atlantic Ocean, without stopping.

In 1927, Lindbergh thrilled the world when he became the first aviator to make a solo, nonstop transatlantic flight from New York to Paris, France. The flight was 3,600 miles, and took

33 hours and 30 minutes. A crowd of 100,000 people came out to give him a hero's welcome as he landed in Paris.

Lindbergh's plane, called the *Spirit of St. Louis*, was built at Ryan Airlines Corporation in San Diego, California. The San Diego International Airport is also known as Lindbergh Field in honor of Charles Lindbergh and his great aviation accomplishments.

### Vocabulary words:

**SOLO FLIGHT** – any flight time during which the pilot is the only occupant on board.

**BARNSTORMER** – any early pilot who traveled around, offering rides and performing airplane stunts.