

The reason we chose the topic: the first plane, is we are both interested in aviation and we wanted to do an invention that was a major turning point in multiple ways. It was also one of the first topics we thought of after we watched the theme video. It is also a cool topic that we knew we could find a lot of sources for. We also considered the first roller coaster, Walt Disney, D-Day, and the Berlin Airlift. We both had a little bit of prior knowledge about the topic which played a part in our decision to choose the first plane.

We started researching lightly all the topics that we considered and the first flight had the most sources and looked to be the most interesting. We then started by going to secondary sources to get a basic idea of the first plane and the first flight of the plane. We then went deeper finding primary sources about the flight and the impact of aviation. After we started looking for primary sources Josiah found a newspaper stockpile from the Library of Congress. We also found many more primary and secondary sources from federal websites. In the middle of our research, we went to a local university to research books and primary sources. The primary sources we found and Britannica School were the most useful sources we could find.

We chose to do a website because we did a website last year and both of us agreed that it was the best format for us to do. We like the medium word count of 1200 words and the layout of pictures, quotes, and images needed for a website. We chose the color scheme for our website because it looks cool. The most frustrating part of the project was researching every aspect of the first plane. The most enjoyable part of the project was putting it together because we could split up the work and add in all the images and quotes. We also liked making it look fluid and clean. We went to a library research event that helped with our NHD website. We had quite a process from regionals to nationals, we added a conclusion for state, then for national we had help from local history advisors and basically tweaked our entire website till it was perfect.

We think our topic: the First Plane has a very clear connection to the theme of Turning Points in History. The invention and development of the plane was a turning point in the history of communication, warfare, and transportation. Our thesis emphasizes the areas that the plane was a turning point in, and we prove it in our project. Without aviation, it would still take a long time to send letters across the world and to travel out of your own country. The plane was also a turning point in entertainment because people would always be able to see planes. The bottom line is that planes have changed the world.