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Grade 4

Rise Above

During World War II African Americans weren't allowed to be pilots in the U.S. military. As a result, some men went to other countries to become pilots. The Tuskegee Airmen was the first group of African Americans who were allowed an opportunity to become pilots in the U.S. military. A total of 996 men were a part of the Tuskegee Airmen, though 66 Tuskegee Airmen died in WW2. The names of the original Tuskegee Airmen were: **John H. Adams Jr, Paul Adam , Rutherford H. Adkins, William Armstrong, Lee Archer, William Bartley, Howard Baugh, Henry Cabot, and Lodge Bohler.**

The group of 332 Tuskegee Airmen shot down some German jet fighters (the first jets in the war). Between 1943 and 1945 450 Tuskegee Airmen were awarded more than 850 medals. The Tuskegee Airmen used six guiding principles to be the best pilots they could be. The principles are: **Aim High, Believe in Yourself, Use your Brain, Be Ready to Go, Never Quit, and Expect to Win.**

By **Aiming high** the Tuskegee Airmen became pilots and won the war. By **believing in themselves** the Tuskegee Airmen knew they could be pilots no matter what anyone else said. By **using their brains** the Tuskegee Airmen thought of clever ways to defeat the enemy. By **being ready to go** the Tuskegee Airmen were always alert and ready to fly. By **never quitting** the Tuskegee Airmen persevered through hurt and pain. By **expecting to win** the Tuskegee Airmen knew that they could do what other people didn't think they could.

I can use these principles to achieve my own goal of succeeding in academics. By **aiming high**, I can ace challenging classes. By **believing in myself**, I will see that I can accomplish a task, and then I will complete it. By **using my brain**, I can think of clever ways of problem solving. By **being ready to go**, I can be prepared to move forward at any time. By **never quitting**, I can persevere through challenging events. By **expecting to win**, I can achieve my goal of succeeding in academics.