



What is “Dihedral” and Why Would I Want Some?

Extending the Student Reading by Writing & Discussing

1. Using the experience of William Eddy at the World’s Columbian Exposition of 1893 as a starting point, discuss the impact of trade and world’s fairs in the exchange of ideas as well as goods. Students can work in small groups to generate ideas of methods of international exchange that have replaced, or added to, world’s fairs. Ask each group to write a sentence or two on the topic and share with the whole class.

Find an account of the 1893 Fair, with period photographs, at <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~MA96/WCE/history.html>. This is a very comprehensive site with lots of background information for teachers. Find a history of world’s fairs, starting with London’s 1851 Crystal Palace Exhibition, at www.answers.com/topic/world-s-fair. This site also includes many links.

2. Learn more about William Eddy himself. The Drachen Foundation provides two essays. The first is at <http://www.drachen.org/journals/a04/WilliamEddy-blueHill.pdf>. It is a shorter version of an essay by kite historian Bob White; the longer version is available at his website, www.best-breezes.squarespace.com/william-abner-eddy. For students who would enjoy photographs of an original Eddy kite, use the articles by Eden Maxwell at <http://www.drachen.org/journals/a08/William-Eddy.pdf>. The last includes a hypothesis about why the diamond-shaped kite is so popular in the West.



Boy with Eddy Kites