Before a new airplane soars off with passengers, a pilot tests it to make sure it flies safely and smoothly. If necessary, the plane is adjusted and tested again.

Paper airplanes are much simpler, but they take some testing, too. One design may fly well, while another wavers. As the pilot, you can learn from your mistakes and try new ways to fold or launch your planes.

The same process of trial and error can help you with any goal in life. For example, you may want to learn to play a new musical instrument or improve your soccer skills. If a problem slows you down, try a new route. Ask for help, or spend more time practicing. When you give your best effort to everything you do, you’ll have a smoother flight to any destination.

You'll Need
- 8½” x 11” (216 mm x 279 mm) sheet of paper
- ruler
- pencil
- colorful markers

Make a Mighty Flier

1. Fold paper in half so long edges touch. Open paper.
2. At one end, fold corners towards center line.
3. Fold down triangle portion.
4. Turn paper over. Fold corners again to meet on center line.
5. Turn paper over again. Fold diamond shape so top tip meets bottom tip.
6. Turn over again. Hold one flap on center line between your forefinger and thumb. Lift flap and fold so crease meets edge of paper, forming nose of plane. Repeat with other flap.
7. Draw a pencil line ½” (1.3 cm) from each short edge of wings. Fold edges up along lines.
8. Fold plane in half at center line.
9. Fold one wing down at nose of plane to make a crease that runs parallel to center line. Turn over and repeat on other wing.
10. Use markers to add one of your goals and colorful designs to your plane.

“Knowledge is as wings to man’s life...Its acquisition is incumbent upon everyone.” — Bahá’u’lláh