

WINGS
helping kids soar®

wingsforkids.org

The NEW Smart

Making sure kids have social and emotional smarts

June 2009



He has Wings

Charlie Bolden really soars! The new NASA chief is an astronaut and South Carolina native who's known as a leader who really knows how to listen – just as The WINGS Creed instructs.

In May President Obama named Bolden to be the new head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Coming from a family of teachers, he was educated at the U.S. Naval Academy after attending public school in Columbia. As a determined high school student, he wrote to President Johnson and asked for help gaining admission to Annapolis in an era when black applicants were a rarity. With a determination to succeed and a commitment to excellence, Bolden made enormous strides.

He flew more than 100 combat missions during the Vietnam War before joining NASA for four shuttle flights, including two as commander. Bolden has logged more than 6,000 hours of flight time.

Kathryn Sullivan was the payload commander on the 1992 flight of Atlantis, which was Bolden's first of two shuttle commands. She said Bolden has all the aspects of leadership that a good chief requires. "That includes experience, wisdom and the ability to listen to all sides." She called him "one of the finest people I've ever known."

Charlie Bolden has WINGS.

[Watch Bolden talk about teachers.](#)



Soar to the Top in Your Flip Flops – Benefit for WINGS kids at Gold Bug Island on July 18, complete with pig roast, open bar and great music. [Tickets sold here](#) and at Poe's on Sullivan's Island.



She Snaps President And WINGS Kids

Talented Time Magazine photographer Callie Shell visited WINGS recently and shot some amazing pictures of our kids. Her artistry and empathy is clear to see, whether she's shooting the Obama family or after school antics. She's a College of Charleston grad.

[Watch a video montage of Callie's WINGS photos.](#)

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Hot Wings

Try CIA On Your Kids

Often we focus on our kids' faults. Instead try accentuating the positive! Print out CIA cards so your kids can be Caught in the Act of good behavior.

Caught in the Act – CIA

These cards make it much easier to focus on the positive and reinforce your kids' good behavior. At WINGS we are mindful of the research showing that positive reinforcement is a powerful tool for changing behavior. Try incorporating this strategy with your family for a month or two – the results may surprise you.

Here's how it works.

- Print out some CIA cards ([click here to find them on the WINGS site.](#))
- When you “catch” your kids displaying positive behavior, reward them with a card. The card should describe in specifics why it has been given. Write your description in feedback form - describe the situation, describe the behavior, describe the effect.

You have been caught in the act!

Given to:

Given by:

Reason:

Date:

For example:

“Today while I was at work, you emptied all of the garbage cans without being asked. This saves me from having to nag you about it and it makes me feel like you are really starting to become a responsible kid!”

“Yesterday when your younger brother was crying and you sat him down to find out what was wrong, it made him feel like you cared about him. I am so happy to see you supporting him.”

- Award the card.
- The kids hold onto the cards and turn them in for a reward determined by you. Maybe they can trade several cards for a toy of their choice, or an iTunes download or for the right to skip a dreaded chore. Get creative with the rewards! Have some fun with this.
- Remember to use the cards to promote positive habits. Kids who feel appreciated and recognized, feel good about themselves. And they repeat the behavior!





The Wings Creed

I soar with WINGS. Let me tell you why. I learn lots of skills that help me reach the sky.

I love and accept who I am on the inside and know my emotions are nothing to hide.

Life's full of surprises that make me feel different ways. If I can control myself, I will have much better days.

I understand the choices I make should be what's best for me to do, and what happens is on me and not any of you.

I understand others are unique. I want to learn more about everyone I meet. I want to step into their shoes and see what they are going through.

I am a friend. I support and trust. Working together is a must.

Kind and caring I will be. I listen to you. You listen to me.

I soar with WINGS. I just told you why. All of these things are why I fly high.

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Meet Caitlin

Second-grader Caitlin Cornell quickly became part of the WINGS family despite a late start at Chicora Elementary School. She's already won a Focus Factor award for ignoring distractions and keeping her eyes, ears and energy on the task at hand.

A member of the Dove's Nest, Caitlin's WINGSLeader is Ms. Jazzi.

One of Caitlin's favorite activities this year was called WINGS Scouts. During this Choice Time, kids learned relationship skills while also having fun roasting marshmallows, telling ghost stories, making cookies and participating in scavenger hunts. Throughout the Choice Time, kids earned badges to signify which specific social and emotional skill they worked on that week.

"I am a success today because I had a friend who believed in me."

- Abraham Lincoln



Got a used laptop gathering dust? WINGS needs computers for recording on-the-spot data about efforts with our kids.

[Donate a laptop.](#)
[Make a gift.](#)

Help From Our Friends

The [Sisters of Charity Foundation](#) is well known in South Carolina for serving the poor, so WINGS was especially honored to be a recipient of a \$70,000 grant.

[Patrick Properties](#) is making WINGS the featured nonprofit at its Wednesday night "Pay it Forward" promotion at Fish restaurant that makes diners aware of worthy causes.