Activity #1

Create an acrostic using at least five letters in Bessie Coleman's name using words that you think explain her character, personality or achievements.

Here's an example using the name Harriet Tubman.

Humble B
Adventurous E
Resilient S
Revolutionary I
Intelligent E
Emancipation E
Tactful C
Tenacious C
Underground Railroad O
Brave L
Methodist E
Abolitionist M
Nicknamed “Moses” N

Activity #2

Bessie Coleman's barnstorming shows included incredible stunts and aerial tricks.

Imagine that you are hosting a Bessie Coleman barnstorming show. Make a poster advertising the show, including details you saw about Bessie, the planes used, tricks performed and price of the show.

Activity #3

Paper Airplane Races

- Using plain or scrap paper, fold three different types of paper airplanes.
- Send each on a test flight.
- Measure how far each airplane flew, using a ruler, or even a book or a pencil.
- Which airplane won? Why do you think it flew the farthest?

Do your research on YouTube to learn how to make paper planes.

*Fun Facts*

Before she became interested in flying, Coleman worked as a manicurist and managed a restaurant.

In an age of rampant racial discrimination, Coleman refused to perform anywhere that wouldn't allow African Americans to attend.

Bessie Coleman was featured on a U.S. postage stamp in 1995 as part of the “Black Heritage” series.