

# Flying Solo

## HOW RUTH ELDER SOARED INTO AMERICA'S HEART

### RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS



#### THINK-TAC-TOE ACTIVITY OPTIONS

- ◆ Individual students can choose an activity to complete.
- ◆ Student pairs or cooperative groups can work together on a choice of their own.
- ◆ Educator can assign an activity for an individual, pairs, or groups.

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| <p><b>PARLEZ-VOUS FRANÇAIS?</b></p> <p>Ruth Elder set out to fly to Paris on October 11, 1927. Learn 10 words in French that relate to flying. Choose an activity below to use the words in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ A poem</li> <li>◆ A story about you or Ruth</li> <li>◆ An illustration or comic strip</li> <li>◆ A “How to Fly an Airplane” brochure</li> </ul> <p><i>Art, Social Studies, Creative Writing</i></p> | <p><b>JOURNEY AROUND THE WORLD!</b></p> <p>You want to travel the world! Choose 5 destinations on 3-5 continents. From your school, calculate the distance to each. Map the shortest and longest routes to complete your journey. How much time will it take by air, boat, train, or car? Tell your group about your journey, including why you chose the particular destinations.</p> <p><i>Math, Geography</i></p> | <p><b>PAPER AIRPLANE EXPERIMENT</b></p> <p>Make 4 paper airplanes. Number each one, 1-4. Pick a starting point and use a tape measure or yard stick to measure how far each plane flies. Try adding paper clips to the wings. Does the extra weight change the flight distance? Present your findings to the class creatively (graphs, charts, pictures, etc.).</p> <p><i>Science, Math, Engineering</i></p>     |
| <p><b>PASSPORT, PLEASE...</b></p> <p>Create a passport and travel with Ruth to France. How long do you think it will take to get there? What will you see when you arrive? What will you learn? What challenges will you face? Write your thoughts in your passport.</p> <p><i>Art, Math, Social Studies</i></p>  | <p><b>A PASSION FOR PILOTING</b></p> <p>Compare the experiences of Ruth Elder, Amelia Earhart, Bessie Coleman, and Anne Morrow Lindbergh. Place their births, flights, and deaths on a timeline. Compare the opportunities and challenges in their lives. Why were they able to pursue their dreams of flying?</p> <p><i>Social Studies, Writing</i></p>   | <p><b>THE GREAT DEBATE</b></p> <p>You want to be a pilot in the 1920s. Flying then was dangerous and your family is worried. Write them a letter convincing them to let you become a pilot. Use evidence to support your case.</p> <p><i>Science, Persuasive Writing</i></p>   |
| <p><b>HEAR YE! HEAR YE!</b></p> <p>You are a newspaper reporter in New York when Ruth Elder returns to the US. Write a newspaper story about Ruth.</p> <p>Include a picture from the internet, hand drawn or copied.</p> <p>Don't forget the headline.</p> <p><i>Social Studies, Writing</i></p>  | <p><b>EARLY FLIGHT</b></p> <p>Research different types of air transportation. Describe the different power sources of each. Share the information you find in one of the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Poster</li> <li>◆ Self-made book</li> <li>◆ Model(s)</li> <li>◆ PowerPoint</li> </ul> <p><i>Science, Technology</i></p>  | <p><b>THROUGH THE YEARS</b></p> <p>Therese Peltier is actually the first documented female pilot. She flew in 1908. Create a timeline that shows the progression of women in the aviation field from 1908 to the present. Which woman do you feel overcame the most obstacles to make her mark in history? Give at least 3 reasons to support your choice.</p> <p><i>Writing, Technology, Social Studies</i></p> |