



Tuskegee Airmen Lesson Plan No. 3

Achievements in Aviation

Length of Lesson: 2 -3 days, 30 minutes each

Grade Level: 6 – 10

Subject(s): Language Arts, History

Objectives

Students will:

- Define obstacles, achievements, and aviation
- Research accomplishments of African American aviators
- Research the Tuskegee Airmen for examples of achievement and their experiences with discrimination
- Create a chart of accomplishments based on historical fact
- Relate what they have learned from inquiry and research to their own experiences.

Vocabulary

- Tuskegee Airmen
- Obstacle
- Achievement
- aviation

Materials or Equipment

- Books about African American aviators and World War I & II
- Computer(s) with internet access



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Learner Framework Theme

Write in the theme that the activity is focusing on.

1. Culture
2. Abilities
3. Motivation
4. Resilience

Activities

Discuss the definition of obstacles and achievements. Ask students to discuss obstacles and achievements that they have been a part of or experienced in their lives. Ask students what obstacles someone would face in the area of aviation, and if there would be more for African Americans, Asian Americans, Latin Americans, American Indians, or European Americans.

Read about and discuss the political and social environment of the United States as it pertained to African Americans in the 1930's & 1940's. Discuss the impact of World War II and the role of African Americans in the military. Ask students why they think African Americans faced so much resistance.

Ask students how African American involvement has changed in recent years. Tell students they will be gathering information to create a chart of the accomplishments of African American aviators from 1920 – current year.

Put students in pairs or small groups and assign each group a decade to research. Students should create a chart of the accomplishments of the African American aviators for their decade, and be prepared to share their research with the class.

Assessment

Teacher and students will define the assessment rubric for the class. Some suggested



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assessment questions are: Is the information recorded on the chart historically accurate? Was the student able to identify African American aviators and detail their accomplishments? Was the chart presented to the class or some other audience?

Credits

Provided by [Center for Excellence in Urban Teaching](#) and developed by:

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- Dr. Barbara Shin
- Dr. Rosilyn M. Carroll