

Bessie Coleman

Bessie Coleman was born in 1896 in **Texas**, the daughter of sharecroppers. Around 1916, her family moved to Chicago. Her family came during the “**Great Migration**” of African Americans moving from the South to the North. Most who moved north moved from a rural environment to an **urban** one.

Bessie’s interest in aviation started during **World War 1**. However, she was rejected entry into flight schools in the united states because she was **African-American** and a **woman**.

Two of Chicago’s African American businessmen, Robert Abbott and Jesse Binga, encouraged Bessie and supported her aviation education in France. In 1921, Bessie became the first American woman to earn an international pilot’s **license**. During the 1920s, Bessie was an expert barnstormer, **parachutist** and stunt flyer.

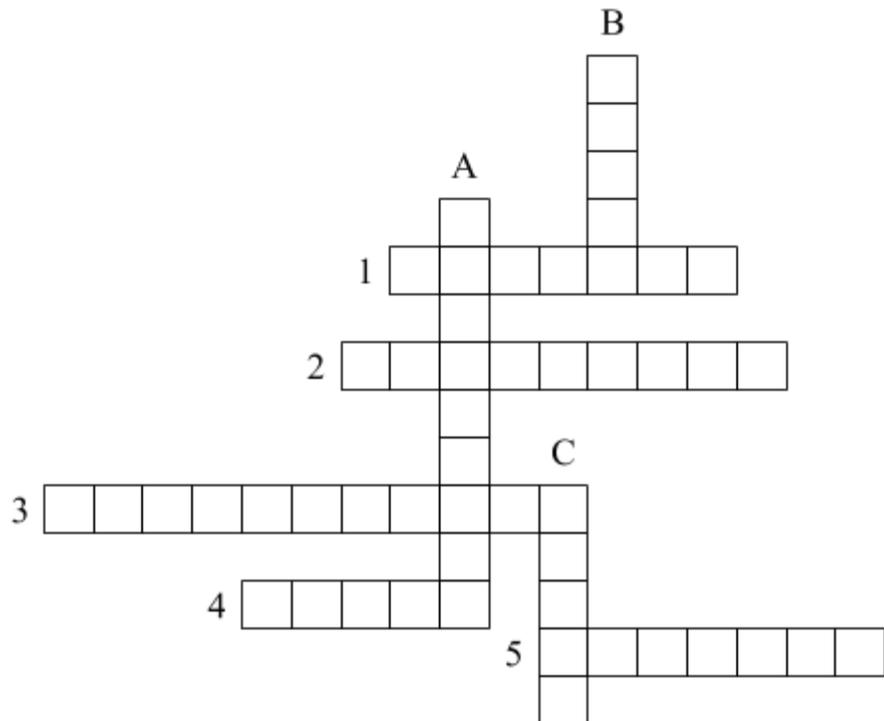
Crossword Clues:

ACROSS

- Bessie became the first American woman to earn her international pilot’s _____.
- Bessie’s interest in aviation was sparked during _____.
- Bessie was an expert _____.
- One reason Bessie was rejected from flight schools was because she was a _____.
- Another reason Bessie was rejected from flight schools was because she was _____-American

DOWN

- Around 1916, her family moved from Chicago during the Great _____.
- Those who moved north moved from a primarily rural, agricultural environment to an _____ one.
- The birthplace of Bessie Coleman.

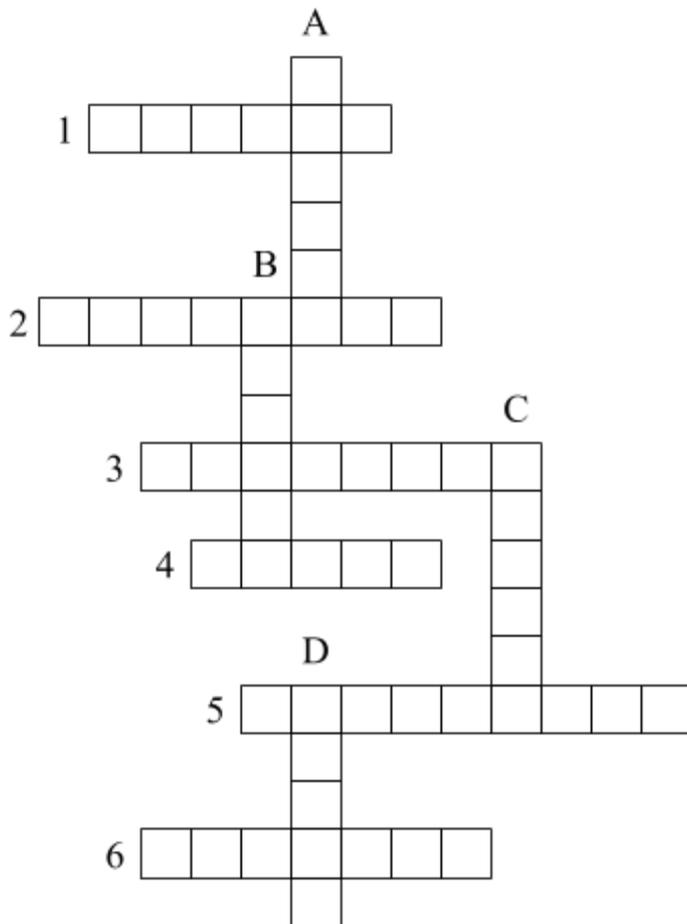


Jerrie Cobb

Jerrie Cobb was born in **Oklahoma** in 1931. She learned to fly a bi-wing plane at the age of **twelve**. She was a pilot for a one-elephant **circus** at the age of sixteen. One of her first jobs at ages 18 and 21 was as a typist and file clerk at Miami International Airport. In 1952 at ages 21 to 22 she ferried surplus military bombers and **fighters** to foreign governments and trained pilots.

In 1959, Jerrie set four world records in maximum speed, distance, and altitude in an Aero Commander twin-engine aircraft. She was also the first woman to pass the NASA **astronaut** tests. This involved three years (1960-1962) of testing for Project **Mercury**, the United States Astronaut Program. She was also a consultant to NASA and a campaigner for women in space. In 1962, it was decided that candidates for space flight must have jet test-pilot experience and women were eliminated from **space** flight.

At age 32, Jerrie changed her aviation focus and began flying the **Amazon** Jungle of South America. She bought an Aero Commander and to this day provides a jungle airlift service to missionaries, tribes, doctors, teachers, environmentalists, farmers, and others. She flies approximately 4,000 miles along the Amazon River. She was nominated for the Nobel **Peace** Prize and founded The Jerrie Cobb Foundation, Inc. to help natives of the Amazon **Jungle**.



Crossword Clues:

ACROSS

- At age 16, Jerrie was pilot for a one-elephant _____.
- In 1952, she ferried surplus _____ to foreign governments.
- Jerrie was born in _____ in 1931.
- For her flying in the Amazon Jungle, Jerrie was nominated for the Nobel _____ Prize.
- Jerrie was the first woman to pass the NASA _____ tests.
- From 1960 to 1962, Jerrie was testing for Project _____.

DOWN

- The Jerrie Cobb Foundation, Inc. helps the native people of the Amazon _____.
- Jerrie learned to fly a bi-wing plane at the age of _____.
- At age 32 Jerrie began flying the _____ Jungle of South America.
- In 1962 women were eliminated from _____ flight.

Jacqueline Cochran

Jacqueline Cochran is one of the most famous women in aviation history. She learned to fly in only three weeks. She later broke an existing **altitude** record by flying a biplane to 33,000 feet in the air.

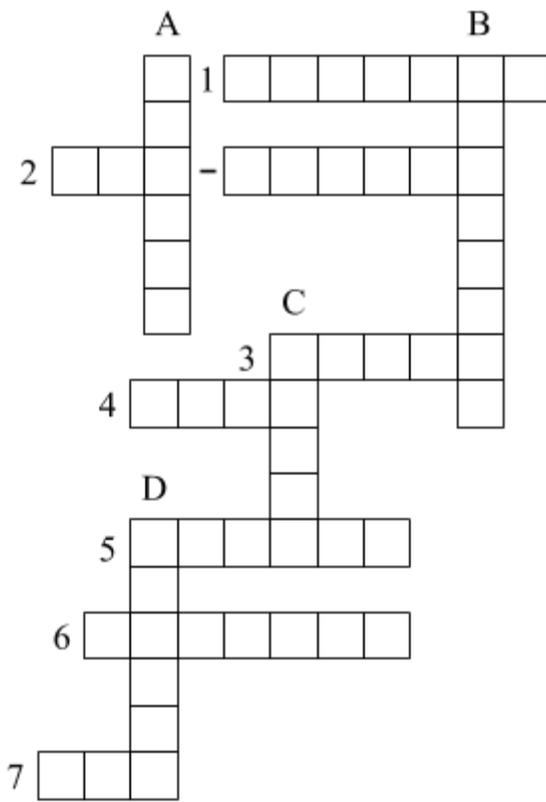
Jacqueline became very interested in air racing and participated in several races including the **Bendix** Cross Country Air Race. She had to convince Mr. Bendix to allow her to fly since the race had been open to men pilots only. She won the race in 1937.

Jacqueline also won **speed** records for flying. The most famous record she holds for speed was when she became the first woman to break the **sound** barrier in 1953. She was named “the **fastest** woman in the world.”

Before learning to fly she had worked for several years in a **beauty** shop. She later began a company manufacturing beauty products. She named her company Jacqueline Cochran Cosmetics.

When WW2 began, Jacqueline was involved in testing new aviation equipment being developed for the war. She also had the idea the military should include women as pilots during the war. After several meetings with the Chief of the Army Air Force General Hap **Arnold**, she was able to convince him to use women pilots to fly **non-combat** missions. She became the director of the new organization which was named the Women Airforce Service Pilots (**WASP**).

When the war was over the WASP had delivered more than 12,600 planes and flown more than 75 different types of airplanes.



Crossword Clues:

ACROSS

1. Jacqueline _____ is one of the most famous women in aviation together.
2. Women pilots were used for _____ missions.
3. Jacqueline Cochran became the first woman to break the _____ barrier.
4. Women Airforce Service Pilots (another name)
5. Cochran flew in the _____ Cross Country Air Race.
6. Jacqueline was named “the _____ woman in the world.”
7. Jacqueline learned to _____ in three weeks.

DOWN

- A. General Hap _____ was the Chief of the Army Air Force.
- B. Jacqueline Cochran broke an _____ record by flying a biplane to 33,000 feet.
- C. She also broke _____ records.
- D. Before learning to fly, Jacqueline worked for several years in a _____ shop.

Female Astronauts

In the early 1960's, thirteen women underwent the same rigorous medical tests as the "Mercury 7" astronauts. They later became known as the "**Mercury 13.**" Despite their outstanding test results, these women, who included Jerrie **Cobb**, were not given the opportunity to fly into space.

In 1981, with the start of the Space Shuttle Program, women were given the opportunity to fly into space. In 1983, at the age of 32, Sally **Ride** became the first American **woman** in space in the Shuttle. She was also the youngest American astronaut at the time.

Dr. Mae Jemison, a medical **doctor** prior to becoming an astronaut, had four years of training with **NASA** to prepare her for space travel.

In 1996, Shannon **Lucid**, an American astronaut, spent time aboard Mir, the Russian space station. Mir means Peace in Russian.

Ellen Ochoa is a Mission Specialist on the Shuttle. She traveled to the **International** Space Station and brought supplies and equipment for future international astronauts.

Col. Eileen Collins, a United States Air Force **test** pilot was the first female Space Shuttle Pilot. In 1999, Col. Collins became the first female Space Shuttle **Commander**.

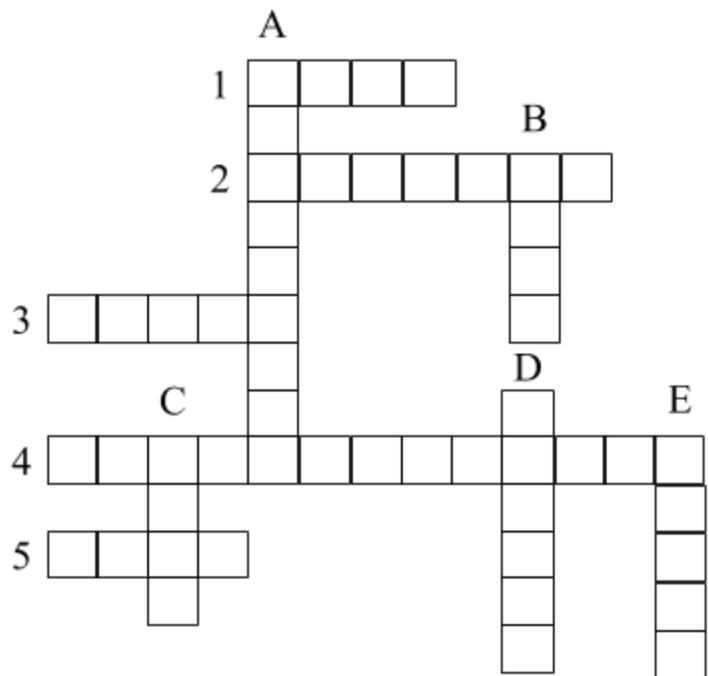
Crosswords Clue:

ACROSS

1. Jerrie _____ underwent astronaut training in the 1960s.
2. Thirteen women later known as the "_____ 13."
3. Sally Ride was the first American _____ to fly into space.
4. Ellen Ochoa traveled to the _____ Space Station and brought supplies and equipment for future international astronauts.
5. Dr. Jemison had four years of training with _____ to prepare her for space travel.

DOWN

- A. In 1999, she became the first female Space Shuttle _____.
- B. Sally _____ was the first American woman to fly into space in the Shuttle.
- C. Col. Eileen Collins, a United States Air Force _____ pilot, was the first female Space Shuttle Pilot.
- D. Dr. Mae Jemison was a medical _____.
- E. Shannon _____ an American Astronaut spent time aboard Mir, the Russian Space Station.



Harriet Quimby

Harriet Quimby was born in **Michigan** in 1875, and lived on a farm with her family. By the early 1900's, Harriet moved to **San Francisco**, California. Here, she developed a love for the stage, longing to be an **actress**. Instead, her curious quest for news and intelligent writing style funneled her toward a career in journalism.

Leslie's Illustrated Weekly employed her as a photojournalist.

Fascinated by the challenge of flying an **airplane**, Harriet took flying lessons during 1911, and became the first woman to get a pilot's **license** in the United States.

In the spring of 1912, while continuing her journalism career, she maneuvered her 50 horsepower **monoplane** across the **English Channel**, becoming the first woman to do so. Harriet performed many stunt flights in **airshows**.

Crossword Clues:

ACROSS

- The birthplace of Harriet Quimby.
- Harriet was fascinated by the challenge of flying an _____.
- She was the first woman pilot to cross this body of ocean water.
- Harriet performed stunt flights in _____.
- Harriet flew a 50 horsepower _____.

DOWN

- Harriet's first love was to become an _____.
- In the early 1900's she moved to this city.
- Harriet was the first woman to get a pilot's _____ in the United States.

