Lots of the activities and discussion topics in these teacher’s notes are deliberately left open to encourage pupils to develop independent thinking around the book. This will help pupils build confidence in their ability to problem solve as individuals and also as part of a group.
When Amelia was a little girl, she liked to imagine she could stretch her wings and fly like a bird.

Why do you think Amelia Earhart achieved fame and recognition?

The Front Cover

The Blurb

What extra information does the blurb give you?

The Endpapers

What do the shapes represent on the end papers? Why do you think the illustrator chose this colour?

Which bird would you choose to be? Why that particular bird?

What do you think it would feel like to fly?

Collect words that help to describe this, using a thesaurus to extend your range of choice.
How does this picture make you feel?

Collect words connected with flying and create a diamante poem:

1) Single noun or pronoun
2) Two adjectives describing the word in Line 1
3) Three verbs ending in -ing that relate to the word in Line 1
4) Two nouns or a phrase relating to Line 1, and two nouns or a phrase relating to Line 7
5) Three verbs ending in -ing that are antonyms of the word in Line 1
6) Two adjectives that are antonyms
7) Another noun

Ground

Air

In pairs:
One takes the role of a reporter and the other Amelia.
Hot seat Amelia to ask her about flying.
Remember to take time to prepare what you might say first.
Convert 14,000 feet to meters and then miles. Imagine that distance going upwards!

Find the Atlantic Ocean on a map or globe.

How do you think it would feel setting off on such a voyage?

Look at the illustration. What technique does the illustrator use to convey the sense of enormity of the ocean?

Find and watch some video footage from the vantage point of a small plane flying and write down any observations you make.

Write a short descriptive piece about what you can see. Think about using similes and metaphors to evoke a vivid picture in the reader’s mind.

Watch this excerpt from ‘Out of Africa.’
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pzo3m3tOkdM

Talk about what you can see and how it makes you feel, jotting down ideas. Then extend your piece of descriptive writing.

What is your opinion of the journey that Amelia and her navigator undertook?
What is Amelia flying past in this picture?

What does the author mean by ‘Amelia wasn’t afraid of living a thousand adventures’?

Why do you think she never returned?

Do you think Amelia’s advice is right? “If you want to do something, do it.”

What happens if you don’t try?

Does it matter if you try and then fail?

Why do you think the illustrator has depicted the plane as a dot-to-dot among the stars?

Create your own dot-to-dot star picture.

Create your own timeline for Amelia Earhart, charting all the main events in her life, e.g. World War I.

Look at different designs for paper planes on the internet and experiment with making your own.

Have a class competition to see whose plane can travel the greatest distance.

Discuss the possible reasons why this model was the most successful.

Were there any variables that affected performance?
Be bold, be brave, dream BIG!
Discover inspirational lives from around the world.