From Flops to Flights

Mission Goal:

Show that mistakes and "flops" aren't failures they're secret clues that make you smarter, more creative, and unstoppable.



Your Mission Briefing:

Today, we're going to launch... not just paper airplanes... but a fleet of flop-powered flying machines!

This isn't about being the farthest flyer—it's about discovering the amazing science behind crashes, nose-dives, and loop-de-loops.

Step 1: First Flight

- 1. Grab only one sheet of paper.
- 2. Fold it into any kind of plane you want—no instructions, no right way, just your own brain power.
- 3. Give it a name: The First-Try Flyer, The Crash-o-Matic-whatever makes you smile.
- 4. Find a safe open space (inside or outside).
- 5. One by one, launch your planes into history!

Rule: We cheer the loudest for the most creative flops!

Step 2: Flight Lessons

After the first flight, huddle up and ask:

- 1. "What happened up there?"
- 2. "Too heavy? Too light? Wings lopsided?"

Now redesign: grab a new sheet of paper, change a fold, reshape the wings, add a drawing with vibrant colors.

This is NOT starting over—it's building on your new knowledge.

Step 3: The Flight Test

- 1. Launch again!
- 2. Some will soar. Some will belly flop. Some will invent a never-before-seen crash pattern.
- 3. That's great—now you fresh clues to work with!

Step 4: The Final Launch!

- 1. Grab a new piece of paper
- 2. Do one last redesign
- 3. Count it down together— 3,2,1... launch!



Debrief: Fail Forward

Circle up and talk about:

- 1. "What was different between your first and last try?"
- 2. "What did your flops teach you?"
- 3. "What might you have missed if you had quit after your first crash?"

Award Wacky Titles for the Teams/Planes:

Hand out titles like:

- 1. Fastest Nose Dive
- 2. Coolest Mid-Air Spin
- 3. Best Crash Landing
- 4. Most Improved Pilot

Take photos of the winners with their planes and certificates to share with your friends.