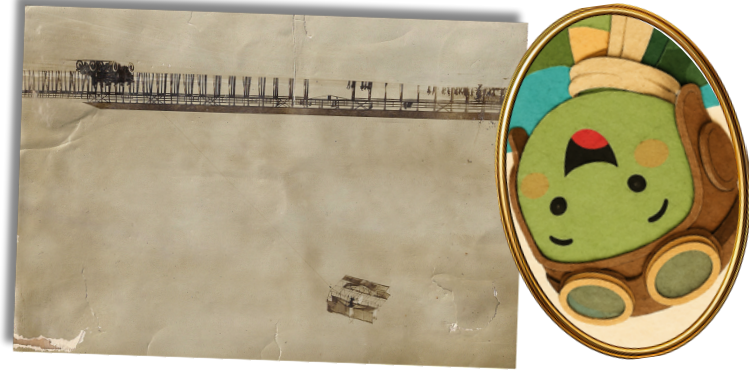


taking flight in AB's skies

Today, people take planes to go on vacation, too—but the commercial flights that bring tourists here today wouldn't come until long after the Wright brothers' very first flight in 1903.



Nowadays, **all people are welcome in Atlantic Beach**, but things were different in the past.

Although Black employees worked at Flagler's companies, they often couldn't enjoy the growing town, so some of these employees bought land from Flagler and built up a community called **Manhattan Beach**.



It was where **Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park** is today!

In 1919, **Lillie Mae Simmons**

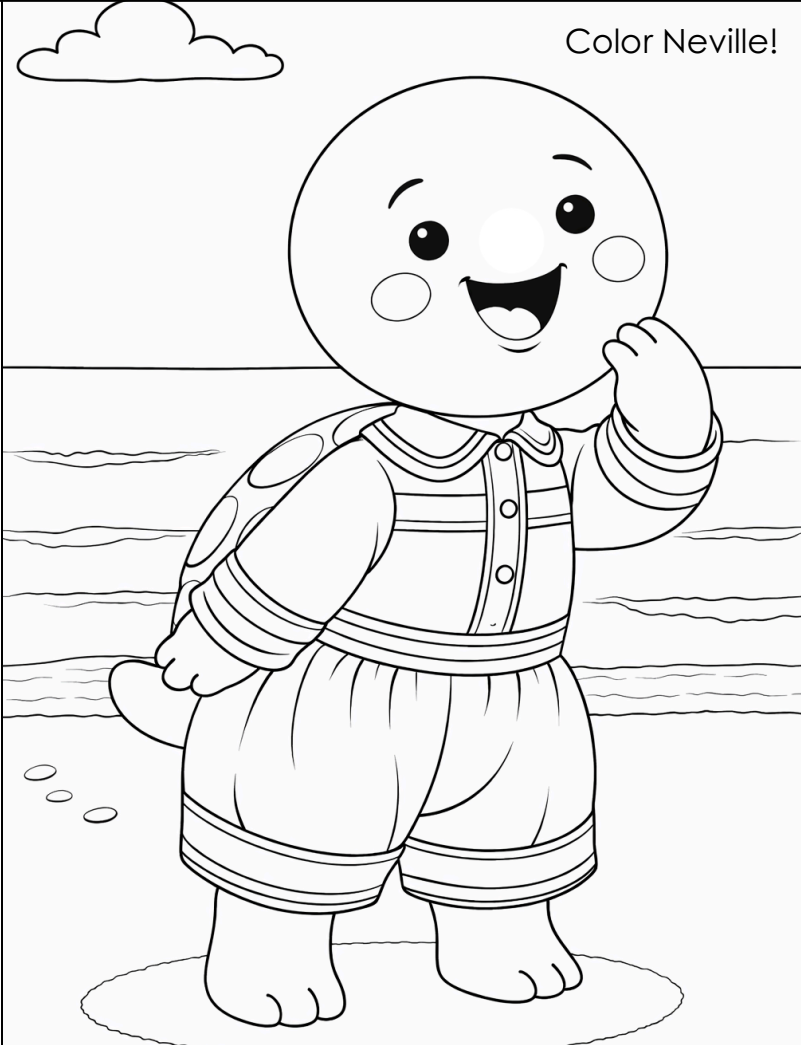
moved to Atlantic Beach. Although she was a teacher, there were no schools for Black residents yet, so like the workers who made Manhattan Beach, she decided to build up the community herself. She would start her own school and teach there, too.

Orpah Jackson

was a teacher, too. She lived in Atlantic Beach and taught at School 144 in Jacksonville Beach after Lillie Mae's school was closed, and eventually she taught at **Atlantic Beach Elementary**.



Today, AB is for Everyone.



are we there yet?

Trains and boats were the only vehicles visitors could take to and from Jacksonville to the beaches for a long time. Everything changed when the cars, then called **automobiles**, became more common.



Road trips to the beach finally became possible—and very, very popular!

People traveled to the Atlantic Beach in their cars more and more. Today, lots of visitors take a bridge to visit Atlantic Beach instead of the railroad.

Flagler knew that tourists would need a place to sleep and things to do, so he opened **The Continental Hotel**.

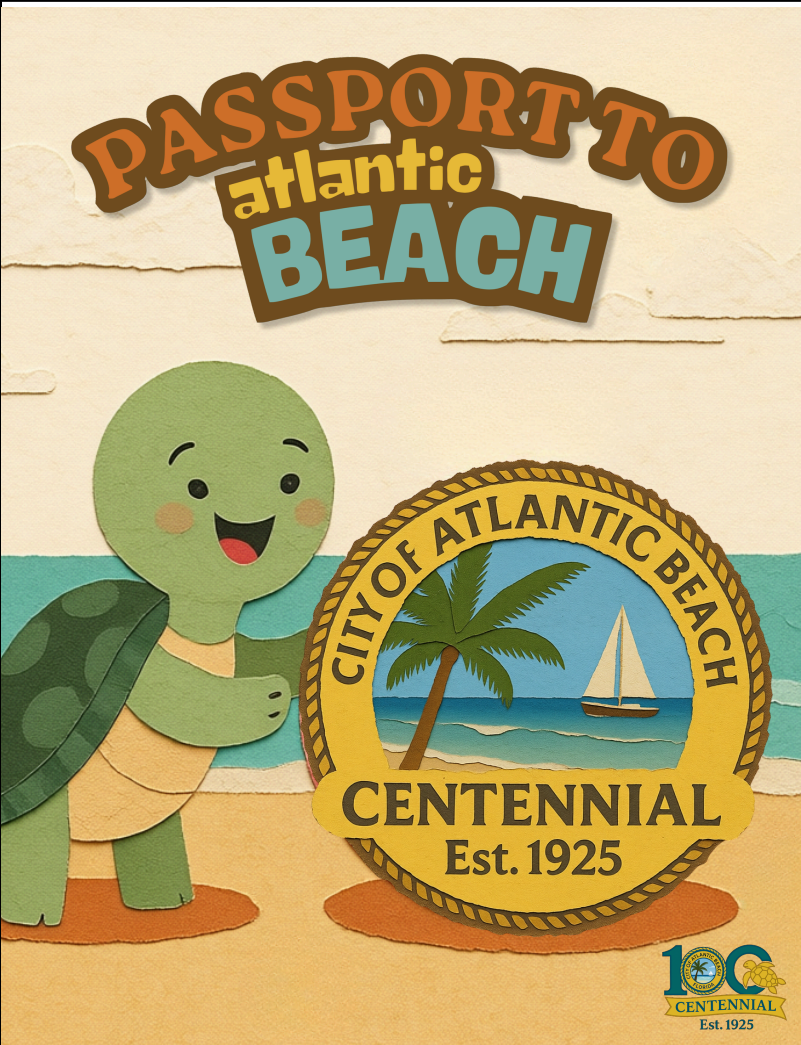
At the hotel, people could lounge at the resort, go to the beach, and enjoy unique seafood vacations weren't too different from today's.

bygone beach activities

What was different? People had to go into the ocean in heavy, cumbersome wool outfits and waded instead of swimming. Their seafood might have included sea turtle eggs or donax clams that were foraged from the dunes and shore!



Soon, everyone wanted to visit. Other hotels and businesses began to open up to serve all the visitors. By the 1910s and 1920s, Atlantic Beach was beginning to look like the city we know today—but it still had a long way to go.



You've probably heard of **ATLANTIC BEACH!** It's one of the cities that makes up the Beaches. If you live at the Beaches, you travel between them all the time. But in the early days of Atlantic Beach, traveling wasn't easy.

why?

The best way to travel back then was by **train**, and the train tracks only connected Jacksonville to **Mayport** and Jacksonville Beach.



One day, **Henry Flagler** bought the local railway line and connected Atlantic Beach to Jacksonville. Trains could finally bring people from all over to Atlantic Beach!