

Flying high

1. What is an ornithopter?

An ornithopter is an aircraft that flies by flapping its wings. Designers seek to imitate the flapping-wing flight of birds, bats, and insects.

2. Which country was Leonardo da Vinci from?

Leonardo da Vinci was from Italy.

3. What is it that makes a hot-air balloon rise?

Hot air makes the balloon rise. The air is heated in the balloon with a burner, which uses bursts of fire to keep the air hot.

4. What is a flight across the Atlantic Ocean called?

A flight across the Atlantic Ocean is called a transatlantic flight.

5. What do you think 'aviation advancements' in the third paragraph means?

Aviations advancements means that there were many new aircraft invented during this time in history.

6. At the beginning of aviation, what types of designs were people focusing on?

People were trying to fly using designs that were based on the way birds fly.

7. Make a timeline of the important dates and events provided in aviation history.

1500s - da Vinci envisioned flying machines with wings.

1783 - First successful hot-air balloon flight.

1903 - Wright Brothers, build the first powered airplane to take-off.

1909 - Louis Bleroit flies across the English Channel.

1909 - John Alcock and Arthur Whitten Brown make the first nonstop transatlantic flight.

1939 - First successful jet-engine airplane flight.

Today - 50,000 commercial passenger flights take off daily.