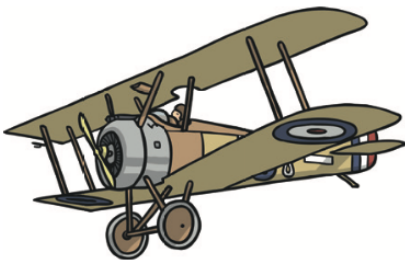


High Flyers

Have you ever wanted to fly? People have been telling stories about flying for thousands of years. Some have experimented with different ways to fly, although most were not successful!

Hot Air Balloon

The hot air balloon was invented by the Montgolfier brothers in 1783. It has become the oldest invention that can successfully take people into flight.



The Wright Brothers

Orville and Wilbur Wright were two brothers, born in America. Their interest in flight began when their father bought them a toy 'helicopter'. They made and sold bicycles but then began to experiment with creating their own flying machine! Their first aeroplane, the Wright Flyer, successfully flew in front of 5 people in 1903.

Airliners

During the 1930s, aircraft which passengers could fly in, called airliners, began carrying people from one place to another. In 1933, the first airliner carried passengers around America. Planes soon became faster and bigger and the jet engine was added in the 1950s. Today, the biggest passenger plane is the double-decker Airbus A-380.

Airliners Past	Airliners Today
Could carry 10 passengers	Some of the larger airliners can carry hundreds of passengers
Made entirely from metal	Made from a carbon fibre-reinforced polymer (extremely strong and light fibre-reinforced plastic)

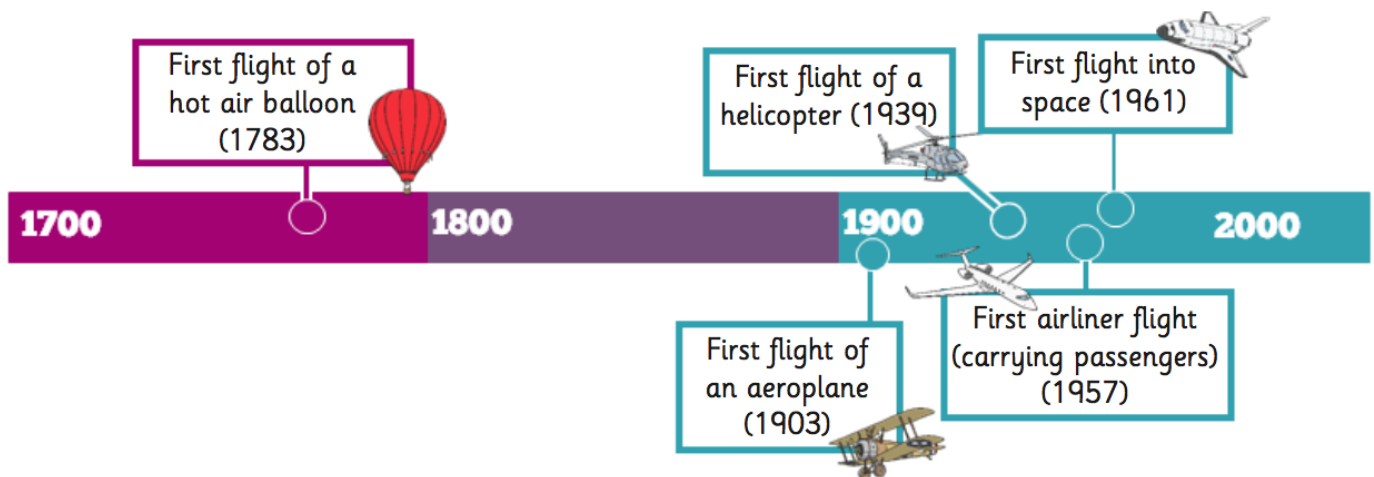
First Helicopter

A helicopter flies by using a set of spinning blades at the top of the helicopter, called a rotor. In France in 1907, the first helicopter lift-off took place. In 1939, A Russian man called Igor Sikorsky created a helicopter which was used regularly; it also had a rotor on the back to stop the helicopter from spinning in the air.

Space Travel

In 1961 a Russian Cosmonaut called Yuri Gagarin was the first person in space. He travelled in a spacecraft called Vostok 1 and travelled around the earth in 2 hours. He had to land by parachute as the craft was designed to crash land.

History of Flight Timeline



1. When was the first hot air balloon invented?

.....

2. Where were Orville and Wilbur Wright born?

.....

3. Put ticks in the table below to show which sentences are **true** and which are **false**. One has been done for you.

Statement	True	False
Orville and Wilbur Wright were born in Spain.		✓
Their interest in flight began when their father bought them a toy 'helicopter'.		
They made and sold helmets but then began to experiment with creating their own flying machine.		
Their first aeroplane was called Wright Flyer.		
They successfully flew in front of 20 people in 1903.		

4. Give **one** fact about the first airliner.

1. _____



5. How are Airliners different today to those in the past? Give **one** difference.

1. _____



6. Look at the section labelled **First Helicopter**. Find and copy **one** word that means the same as 'designed'.

1. _____

.....

7. Draw lines to match the words below to their meaning.

airliners

the oldest invention that can successfully take people into flight

hot air balloon

an aircraft that flies by using a set of spinning blades at the top, called a rotor

helicopter

aircraft which passengers can fly in

8. Look at the section labelled **Space Travel**.

Write down **two** facts about the Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin's journey into space.

1. _____
2. _____

.....

9. Why did Yuri Gagarin land with a parachute when he returned from space?
