

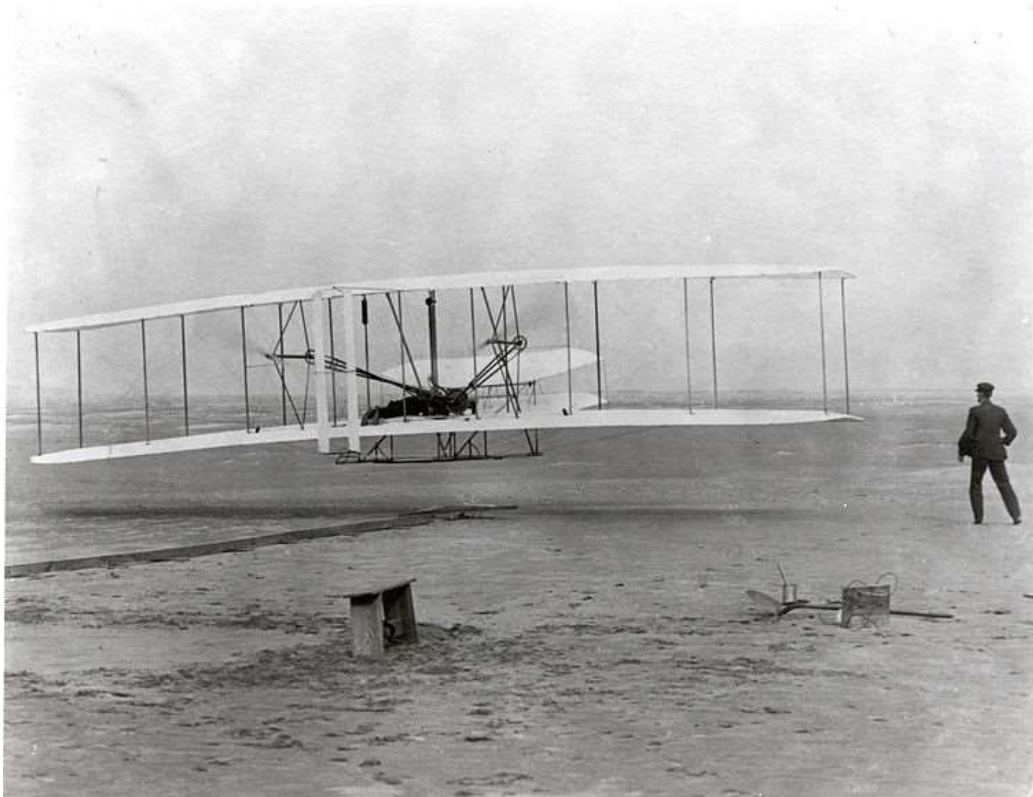


*Picture Book
Partners*



presents

The First Airplane



Online Article:

<http://www.acs.org/content/dam/acsorg/education/whatischemistry/scienceforkids/articles/the-first-airplanes.pdf>

Guiding Questions:

1. What historical event is described in this article, and why is it important?
2. What is the structure of this text? How do you know?
3. Were the Wright Brothers scientific? Use details from the story to support your answer.
4. Why do you think the Wright Brothers were successful even though they hadn't gone to school for airplanes or engineering? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.
5. Why do you think the author included the timeline at the bottom of this article?

Extension Idea:

Explore photographs and artifacts to learn more about the Wright Brothers. Then test your knowledge with a multiple choice quiz.

<http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/k-12/UEET/StudentSite/games/wb2k3/wb2k3.swf>



Answer Key:

1. This article describes the first powered airplane flight. It is important because no one had ever flown before, and the Wright Brothers showed the world that it was possible.
2. It is structured chronologically. I know because the story begins with details about the Wright brothers owning a bicycle shop and ends with the story of their first successful flight.
3. I think the Wright Brothers were scientific because they tested their designs, made careful observations, and used what they had learned to make their next design even better.
4. I think the Wright Brothers were successful because they were able to teach themselves. They started with the basics of kites and gliders and worked up to the complicated task of building an airplane. I also think they were successful because they persevered and learned from their mistakes. When their first airplane crashed, they fixed it and tried again.
5. I think the author included the timeline because he or she wanted the reader to see how far flight has come since the Wright brothers made their first flight.

Common Core Standards Addressed:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.3 Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.5 Describe the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text.



What historical event is described in this article, and why is it important?

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Were the Wright Brothers scientific? Use details from the story to support your answer.



Why do you think the Wright Brothers were successful even though they hadn't gone to school for airplanes or engineering? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

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