

To Infinity and Beyond



Orville Wright



Wilbur Wright



The Wright Flyer

Important Topic Vocabulary

national This relates to what is happening in a whole country rather than a part of it.

international This involves what is happening in other countries around the world.

significant This is something that is important that can result in change.

solo This is something done by one person alone.

evidence This is something that gives a reason to believe something is true.

source This is a place where information can come from.

succeed This means to do well at something.

glider A glider is an aircraft that flies without the use of an engine.

The Wright Brothers

Orville and Wilbur Wright were two brothers born in Ohio in the United States of America. Wilbur was born in 1867 and Orville was born in 1871.

As children, the Wright brothers were given a toy helicopter by their father which worked by pulling an elastic band. This first started their interest in flying.

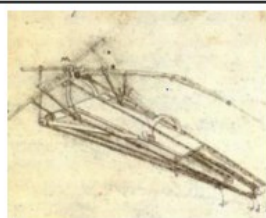
When they became adults, they set up their own shop repairing and selling bicycles.

The Wright brothers used the money from their shop to design and make their own gliders.

During 1902 and 1903, Wilbur and Orville designed a light engine that was strong enough to power a small aeroplane.

On 17th December 1903, Wilbur Wright became the first person to successfully fly a plane. The plane flew for 57 seconds. This happened in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

Significant developments in flight



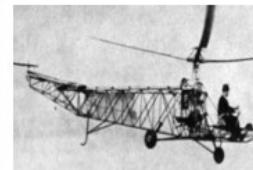
In **1485**, Leonardo da Vinci designed an ornithopter. This was a machine that would fly by flapping its wings.



In **1783**, the Montgolfier brothers invented the hot air balloon.



In **1903**, the Wright brothers became the first people to successfully fly an aeroplane.



In **1939**, the first helicopter flew.



In **1961**, the first manned flight into space took place.