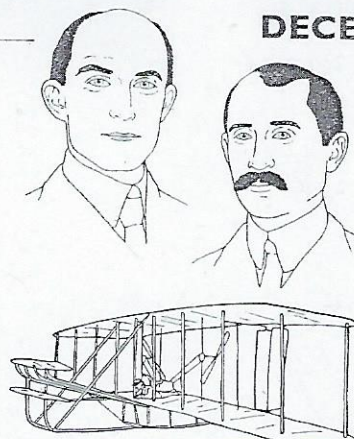


Day 3

# FIRST AIRPLANE FLIGHT



On December 17, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright became the first men to fly in a machine powered by an engine.

Before 1903, flying was thought to be impossible. The Wright brothers did not believe this, and they set out to build a machine that could fly.

The Wright brothers always liked mechanical things. Around 1896, they became interested in flying. The brothers read all they could find about gliders and then tested them near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

In 1902, the Wright brothers began planning a powered airplane. By the fall of the following year, they had built a flying machine.

On the morning of December 17, 1903, at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, the Wright brothers tossed a coin into the air to find out who would be the first to fly. Wilbur, the older brother, won the coin toss

but could not get the plane into the air. Orville tried his hand at it and was successful.

With only five people to watch this great event, Orville and Wilbur's flying machine rose 10 feet into the air and traveled 120 feet. The first flight lasted only 12 seconds. In all, the Wright brothers made four flights that day. The longest flight traveled 852 feet and lasted 59 seconds.

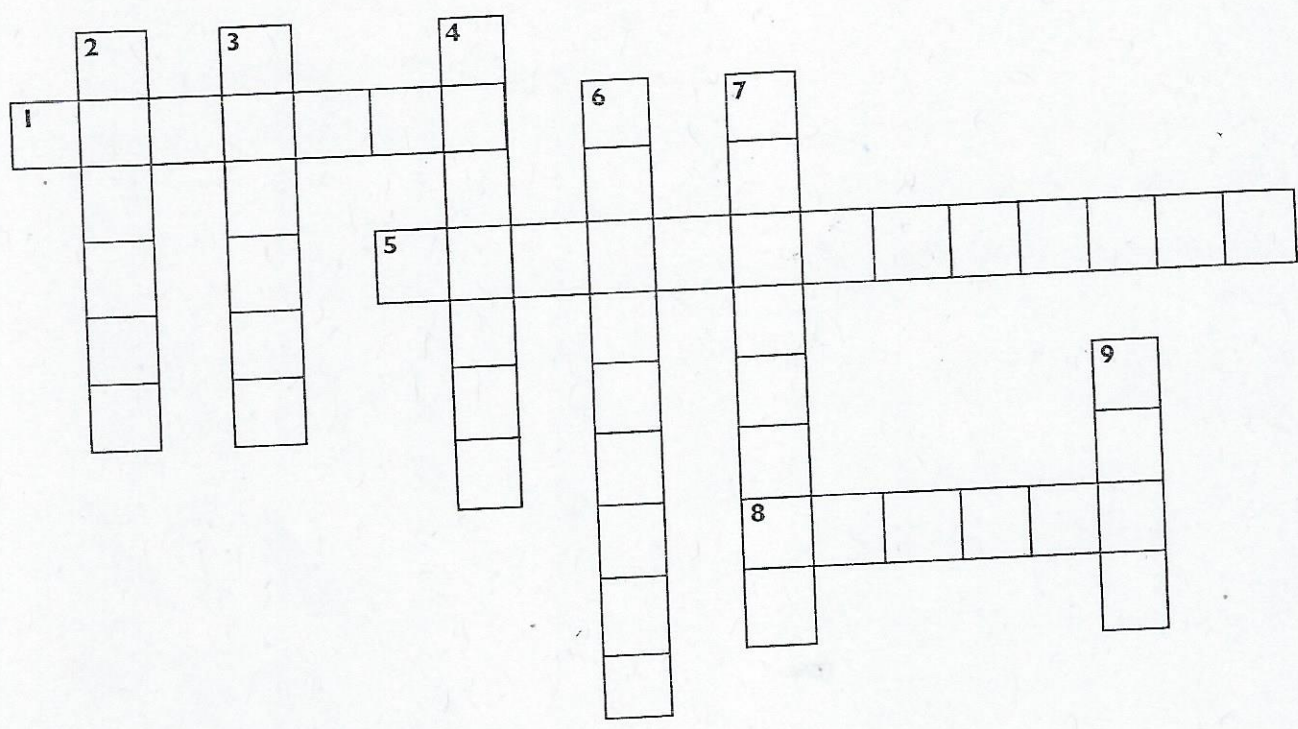
Only three newspapers carried the story of the first airplane flight. For almost five years, the first airplane flight remained unknown.

In 1910, a cartoon and a poem appeared in a magazine. The poem read:

*There was a young fellow  
named Wright  
Who studied the birds in their flight.  
"If these sparrows can fly why in  
thunder can't I?"  
Quoth he, and he proved he  
was right.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## FIRST AIRPLANE FLIGHT



### Across:

- \_\_\_\_\_ was the first Wright brother to fly.
- The first flight took place in the state of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Wright brothers were the first to fly in a machine powered by an \_\_\_\_\_.

### Down:

- \_\_\_\_\_ was the last name of the brothers who were the first to fly.
- The older brother was named \_\_\_\_\_.
- The longest flight lasted 59 \_\_\_\_\_.
- The first flight took place in the city of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The flight occurred in the month of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The first flight went 120 \_\_\_\_\_.

**Research:** Read more about *Wilbur and Orville Wright* in an encyclopedia. How old was Orville when he piloted the first flight?