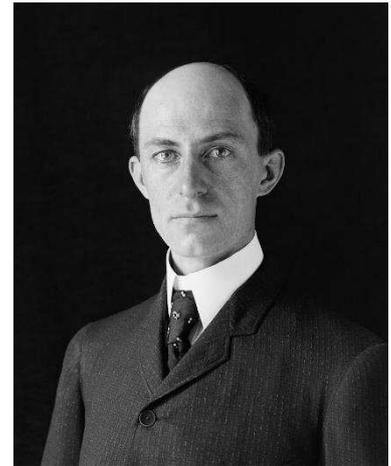




Wilbur and Orville Wright were brothers who were born in America. They became interested in flying after their father gave them a toy helicopter which they loved to play with.



**Orville and Wilbur Wright in 1905**

They learned a lot about machines when they ran a bicycle shop and they saved up money to build an aircraft. First they built a glider and then went on to build the first powered flying machines that were fully controlled by pilots.

Their first flying machine was called 'Wright Flyer I' and was made of wood and fabric. They built the engine in their bicycle shop. The plane was ready for its first flight in December 1903 but it did not stay in the air for long. After the flight the plane was damaged by a gust of wind and did not fly again.



**'Wright Flyer I', 17<sup>th</sup> December 1903, Orville piloting, Wilbur running at wing tip. By John T. Daniels**

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They built more planes which could fly much further and eventually they became celebrities, selling their planes in Europe and taking important passengers on flights.



Questions:

1. Where were Wilbur and Orville Wright born?

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2. What started their interest in flying machines?

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3. What kind of shop did the Wright Brothers have?

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4. Which type of aircraft did they build first?

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5. What was their first powered flying machine called?

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6. What was the plane made of?

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7. When did they take 'Wright Flyer I' on its first flight?

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8. What happened to the plane?

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9. Why do you think they became celebrities?

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10. Draw picture of 'Wright Flyer I'.



Answers:

1. Wilbur and Orville Wright were born in America.
2. Their interest in flying machines started when their father gave them a toy helicopter.
3. The Wright Brothers had a bicycle shop.
4. They built a glider first.
5. Their first powered flying machine was called 'Wright Flyer I'.
6. The plane was made of wood and fabric.
7. They took 'Wright Flyer I' on its first flight in December 1903.
8. The plane was damaged by a gust of wind and could not fly again.
9. Answer to include that they had built the first powered flying machine that was fully controlled by pilots and they took lots of important passengers on flights.