

Can Airplanes Ski?



by Heather E. Schwartz

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT FLYING VEHICLES



Flying vehicles are all around us! Jumbo jets carry passengers to faraway places. Rescue helicopters rush to help people in danger. Military jets whoosh across the sky.





Let's learn more about flying vehicles.
Read each question and try to guess
the answer. Then turn the page to find
out if you got it right!



How long was the first flight on a plane?



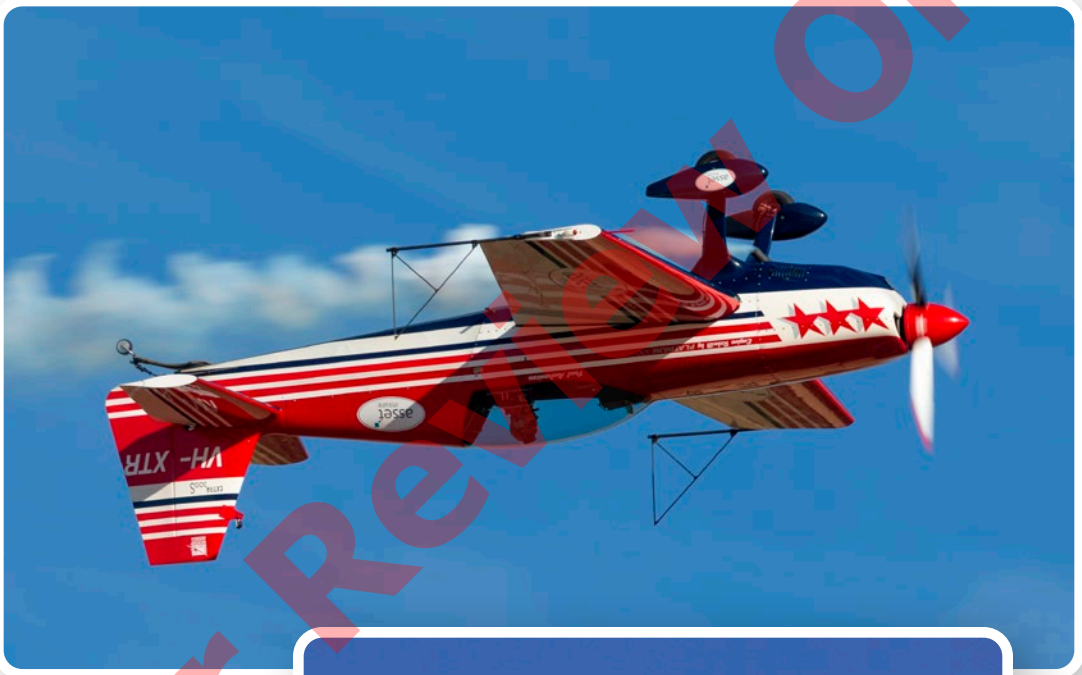
Brothers Orville and Wilbur Wright built the world's first powered plane. On December 17, 1903, Orville successfully flew the plane for the first time. His flight lasted only 12 seconds, and he traveled just 120 feet (36.6 meters).



Can an airplane fly upside down?

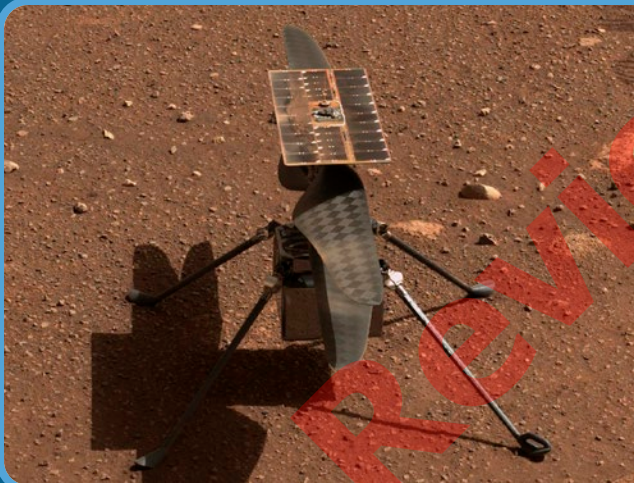


Stunt planes can fly upside down! Their wings are designed for upside-down flying. They also have powerful engines to make quick movements. Stunt planes can fly in loops, rolls, and spins.



FUN FLYING VEHICLE FACTS!

Brothers Orville (right) and Wilbur Wright invented the first powered airplane in 1903. They started working on their idea when Orville was 7 and Wilbur was 11.



The NASA Ingenuity Mars Helicopter was solar powered. When it got low on power, it used sunlight to recharge on its own.

The LC-130 Hercules Skibird weighs 90,000 pounds (40,823 kg). That's equal to the weight of about seven male African elephants!



The huge Boeing 747 is made of six million parts. Half of them are fasteners such as nuts and bolts.



Airplane tires are made so they won't pop when the plane lands. They can land safely more than 500 times before needing service.

The first hot air balloon meant to carry a person was invented in 1783. It was tested by sending a sheep, a duck, and a rooster on a short flight.

