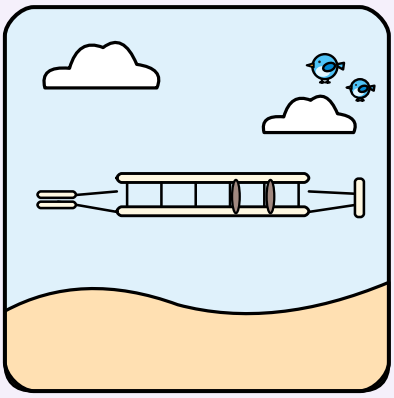
The Wright Brothers Take Flight

Name: _____ Date: _____



For thousands of years, people dreamed of flying like birds. Two brothers from Dayton, Ohio, Wilbur and Orville Wright, decided to make that dream come true.

The brothers owned a bicycle shop, where they learned to build machines that were light and strong. They studied how birds turn and balance in the air. Then they tested their ideas with kites and gliders. Many tests failed, but they kept improving their designs.

On December 17, 1903, at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, Orville climbed onto their airplane, the Flyer. The engine roared, and the plane lifted off the sand. The flight lasted only 12 seconds and covered 120 feet. Still, it was the first time a powered airplane had carried a person through the air under control. Later that day, Wilbur flew 852 feet. Their invention changed the way the whole world travels.

1 WHERE? **Where did the first airplane flight take place?**

Dayton, Ohio Kitty Hawk, North Carolina New York City

2 HOW? **How long did the first flight last?**

12 seconds 12 minutes 1 hour

3 **Number the events in order from 1 to 3.**

- ☐ They tested kites and gliders.
- ☐ Orville flew the Flyer for 12 seconds.
- ☐ The brothers ran a bicycle shop.

4 WHAT? **What helped the Wright brothers learn to build an airplane? Give one detail.**

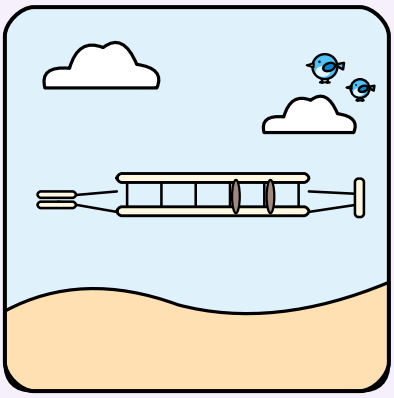
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Answer Key

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1 The brothers ran a bicycle shop.

4 WHAT? **What helped the Wright brothers learn to build an airplane? Give one detail.**

Building bicycles taught them to make light, strong machines.