

Flight and Rocketry

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Glossary

aerodynamics study of how air pushes and pulls on objects

aeronautics science of flight

airfoil object, such as a wing, whose shape and tilt, or angle, help lift an aircraft

airship aircraft that is lighter than air, has an engine, and can be steered

Bernoulli's principle scientific idea that states that the faster air flows, the less pressure it pushes with

controls instruments and devices used to operate and control the movement of an aircraft

drag force acting on a moving object in the opposite direction of the object's movement, slowing the object down

friction force caused by objects rubbing together that makes them slow down or stop

glider aircraft without an engine that is carried along by air currents

gliding flight flight that does not use any kind of power

gravity force that pulls objects toward Earth

helicopter aircraft without wings that is lifted and kept in the air by rotors

hot-air balloon aircraft that uses a burner to heat air inside a large balloon, making the aircraft rise

jet engine engine that pulls air in the front and pushes it out at a high speed through a back vent to produce thrust

lift upward force caused by the flow of air above and below an airfoil

parachute device usually made of nylon or silk used to control the speed or direction of a person or object dropping from a height

pressure amount of force applied per unit of area; for example, pounds per square inch

propeller device made of blades that spin around a shaft, used to produce thrust for an airplane

propulsion act of pushing an object forward

rocket engine that burns fuel in a chamber with an open end, making hot gases that produce thrust when they rush out of the chamber

rocketry science of building and using rockets

rotor device made of blades that spin around a shaft, used to produce lift for a helicopter

stability ability of an aircraft to stay on course

thrust force that moves an object forward

true flight flight that requires some kind of power

weight force caused by gravity pulling down on an object

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