



Advanced Aerospace Quest

America learned to fly on Long Island. Generations of Long Islanders working side by side built countless flying machines to defend our country's freedom and leave footprints on the Moon. The Cradle of Aviation Museum is preserving Long Island's rich aerospace heritage.

Many of the docents in our galleries were involved in significant ways with the aircraft in our collection. Please ask their help in answering the questions below, especially those marked with an asterisk*.

Dream of Wings Gallery: up to 1903

1. In what year and in what country did the first manned hot air balloon flight occur? _____
2. Which famous "inventor/communicator" built a tetrahedral kite around 1900? _____
3. Who designed, built and flew the first successful glider to carry a person in the 1890's? _____

Aerodynamics Gallery (Wall of Wind Room)

4. What is the name of the first unmanned aircraft? _____
5. What three basic things does an airplane need to fly? _____

Hempstead Plains Gallery: 1908 – 1914

6. Who was Glenn Curtiss? * _____
7. What was the first aircraft to fly over Long Island? _____
8. a) Who was Calbraith Perry Rodgers? _____
b) What did the Vin Fiz plane do? _____
c) How many times did Rodgers crash during his attempt to fly from the East to the West coast? _____
9. What is the name of one of the oldest airplanes in the world built in 1909 in France? {This type of plane was the first to fly across the English Channel.}

a) How fast could it fly? _____
10. Who was the first licensed female pilot in the U.S.? _____
11. Where was the first American aviation school started? _____
12. What airfields were located in the area of this museum? _____

World War I Gallery: 1914 - 1918

13. What was the primary flight trainer in Curtiss Field in World War I? * _____
14. What was the Breese Penguin used for? _____
15. Who is Mitchel Field named after? _____

The Golden Age Gallery: 1919 - 1939

16. Where did Charles Lindbergh take off from as he headed to Paris in the Spirit of St. Louis on May 20, 1927? _____
17. What is the benefit of retracting the landing gear on the Grumman F3F? *

18. What is the unusual capability of the Grumman G-21 Goose? * _____

Advanced Aerospace Quest, Cont'd

World War II Gallery: 1939 - 1945

19. How many Long Islanders worked in the defense industry in WWII? _____
20. What type of plane was President George W. Bush's father shot down in during World War II? *

21. How did the Grumman Avenger get its name? * _____
22. During World War II, why did the Navy and Marine Corps planes on aircraft carriers have folding wings? * _____
23. What was the most produced American fighter plane in history? _____

The Jet Age Gallery: 1946 - 1981

24. What family of animals was used by Grumman as names for their fighter aircraft? *

25. What weather phenomenon was used by Republic as names for their fighter planes? *

26. Why does the Tomcat have wings that can change their sweep angles?
* _____
27. What was the largest single seat, single engine jet fighter in the U.S.?

Contemporary Aviation Gallery: 1982 – present

28. What airline sponsored the first American commercial jet flight from NY to Paris? * _____
29. How many arrivals and departures do air traffic controllers handle at NY area airports each year?

30. How many aerospace manufacturers are still on Long Island? _____

Space Exploration Gallery

31. What is the name of the rocket that launched all the astronauts to the moon? * _____
32. What is the name of the spacecraft that landed on the Moon? _____
33. Where were the lunar modules built? * _____
34. How many workers on Long Island were involved with building the lunar module? * _____
35. How far did the Apollo astronauts travel to get to the Moon? * _____
36. Who was the first astronaut to walk on the Moon? _____
37. Who was the last astronaut to walk on the Moon? * _____
38. How much did the astronaut's space suit weigh on Earth? * _____
a) Why did the spacesuit only weigh 30 lbs. on the Moon? * _____
39. How many missions landed on the moon? * _____
40. What material was used as the foundation for a blanket to protect the lunar module from extreme heat and cold on the Moon? * _____
41. What is the name of the spacecraft that brought the astronauts back to Earth? * _____
42. How many Long Islanders have been in space? _____