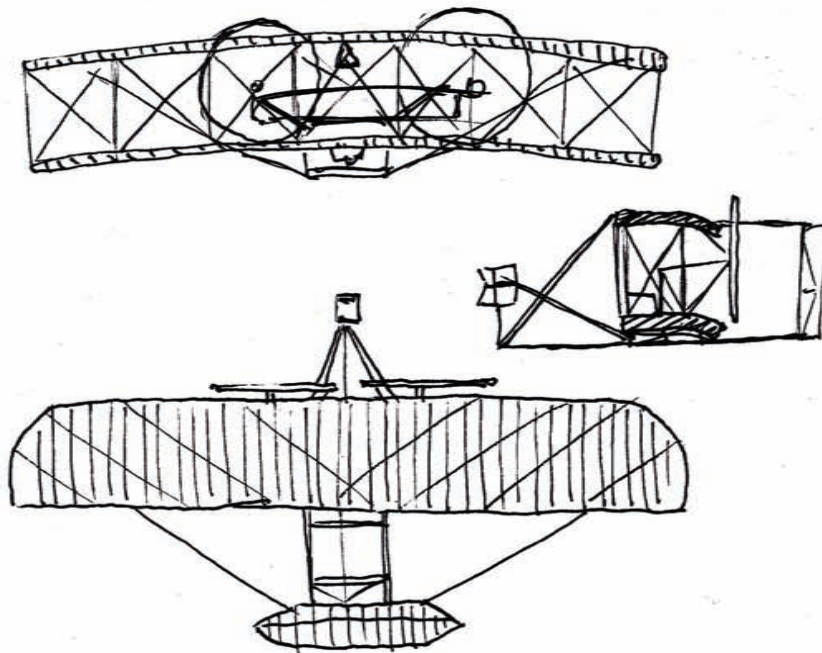


# Wright Brothers Flyer

Inspired by German flight *pioneer* Otto Lilienthal, the Wright Brothers decided to explore human flight on their own. First building gliders, planes that flew without power, the Wright Brothers took what they learned from those experiments and built the first flyer, an airplane that flew with the help of a motor and propellers. Their plane, the Wright Flyer I, was successfully flown at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, in 1903. Their pioneering work helped people take *aviation* seriously, and changed the way people travel across the country, across the world, and even across outer space!

*A sketch by Orville*



**Answer the questions below on a separate piece of paper.**

1. Why do you think people didn't take aviation seriously at first?
2. Do you think you would be brave enough to build and fly your own plane, at a time when it was dangerous to do so?



*The Wright Brothers; Orville and Wilbur*

## **Vocabulary**

*pioneer*: someone who is among the first to do something. "Elvis Presley was a pioneer of rock and roll."

*aviation*: the study of flying in airplanes and other aircraft. "I wanted to study aviation in college so I could become a pilot, but my family wanted me to study law."