

Helicopters

Name: _____

Helicopter Facts

- Helicopters are one of the most versatile flying machines.
- A helicopter is capable of vertical take-off and landing and can also hover over a fixed position.
- If a helicopter's engine stops the rotor continues to spin, allowing the machine to slowly land.
- 500 years ago, the great Italian inventor Leonardo Da Vinci made drawings of a machine similar to what we now know as a helicopter.
- The first practical helicopter was not made until the 1930's.
- The Mil V-12 is the largest helicopter ever built. It is 37 m long and can fly at 260 kph.

Do you know any more interesting facts about helicopters?

Making a Paper Helicopter

1. Copy the design onto a piece of thin cardboard.

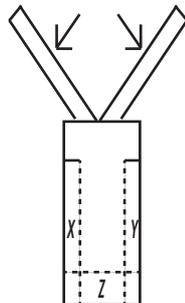
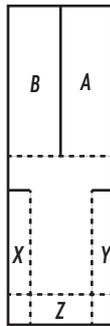
2. Cut the solid lines.

3. Crease and fold the dotted lines.

4. Fold the 'propellers' (A and B) in opposite directions.

5. Fold the sides (X and Y) and the bottom (Z). Flap Z gives weight to the bottom of the helicopter.

6. Hold it above your head and release.



Word Meanings

Select the word that most closely matches the phrase.



To remain floating in the air.
(hover / descend)

Turn or cause to turn or whirl around quickly.
(spin / dive)

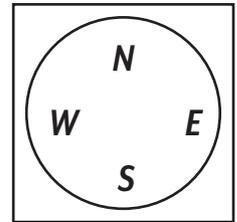
Winding round and round, usually tapering to a point.
(bend / spiral)

Upright and at a right angle to the horizon.
(horizontal / vertical)

To move in a circle around an axis.
(hover / revolve)

Number Crunchers

Chuck took off in his helicopter and flew north. He then turned to the right.



In which direction was he now facing?

west south north west east

The next day, Chuck took off and flew south east. After a while, he turned and flew in the opposite direction.

In what direction was he now facing?

