

Captain Bob's
AMAZING
UNIVERSE



By
Bob Redman



The Story of Flight

Captain Bob's



“The Story of Flight”

By Bob Redman

Illustrated by Randy Barnicki

DISCOVERY PAGE

**Who made the very first airplane?
(Look on page 13)**



**Modern jets fly very fast and very high.
(Check out page 21)**



**Can you draw and color your own airplane?
(Go to page 32 and give it a try!)**

**What was the first thing people made that flew in
the air? (Take a peek at pages 8 and 9)**



**What was the name of the boy who tried to fly in the air using
feathers? (Check out pages 6 and 7)**



**Hot air can help people fly!
(Float over to see page 10)**

**Who was the first man to fly by himself over an ocean?
(Fly over to pages 16 and 17)**

**The Voyager airplane did something very special.
(Use many colors on pages 28 and 29)**



**What plane flew faster than the speed of sound?
Clue...KABOOM! (Look on page 24)**





Hi, I'm Captain Bob. Did you ever wonder how people learned to fly in the air? Me too! So I did some exploring and found out how it all happened.



People have always wanted to fly like birds.



In fact, that's how this story begins.... with a feather.



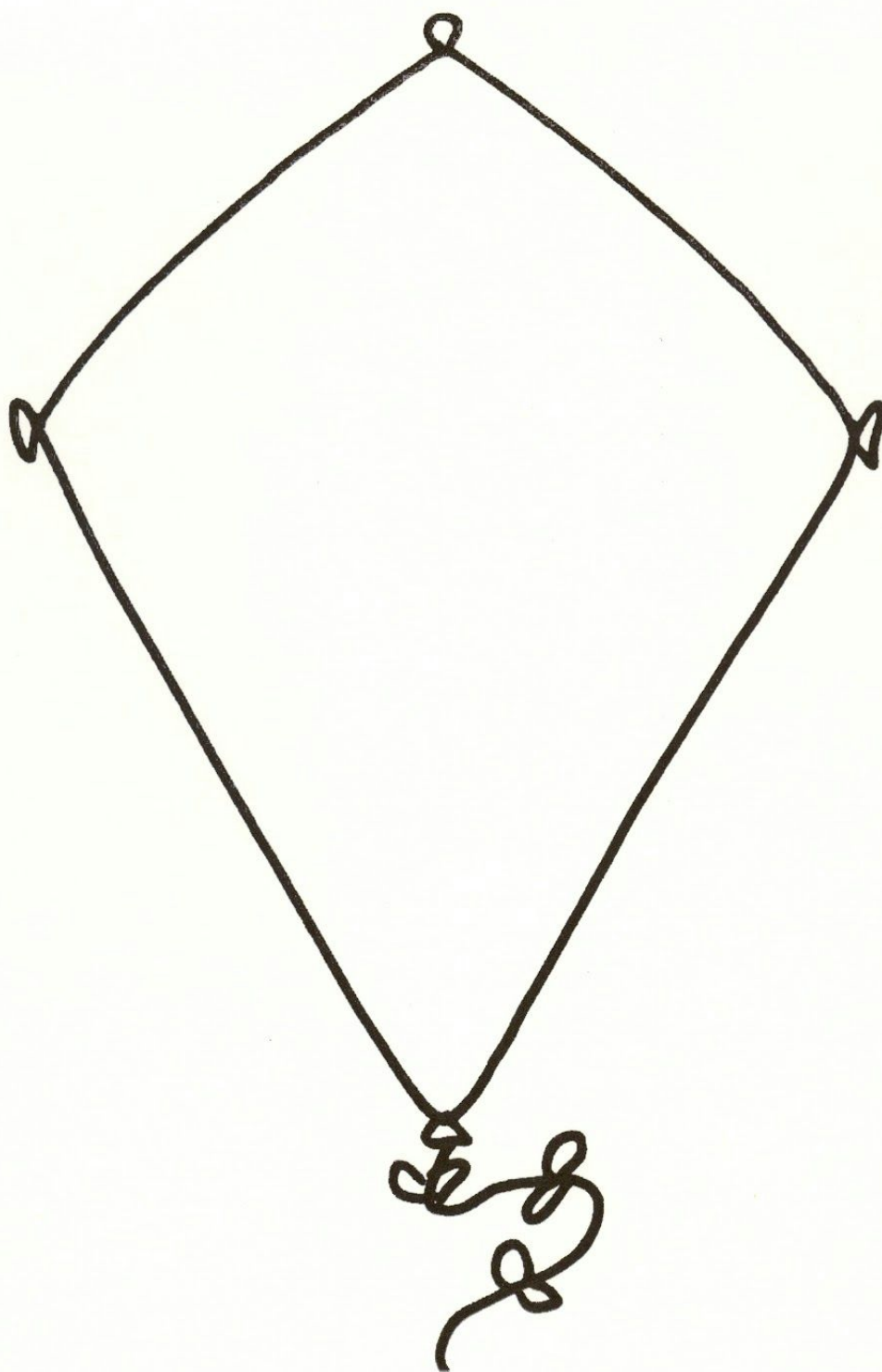
A long time ago people made up a story about a boy named Icarus. Icarus thought it would be fun to glue feathers to his arms. He jumped into the air, flapped his wings and he started to fly.



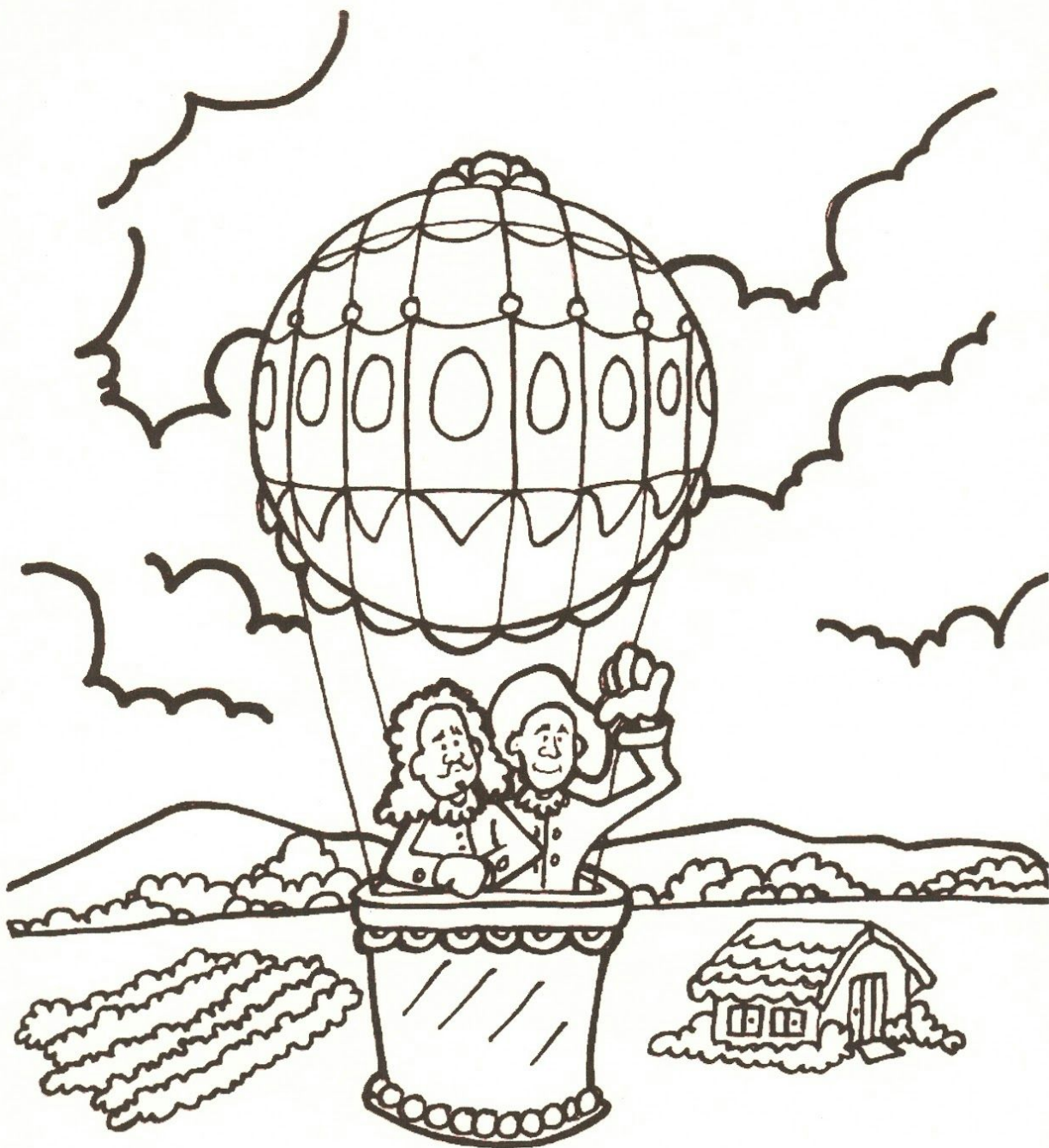
But, Icarus flew too close to the sun and it melted the glue. The feathers fell off and Icarus fell into the sea.



In real life, the first thing people made that could fly was a kite. The Chinese invented colorful kites over 2000 years ago.



Can you draw your own picture on this kite? Use lots of colors!



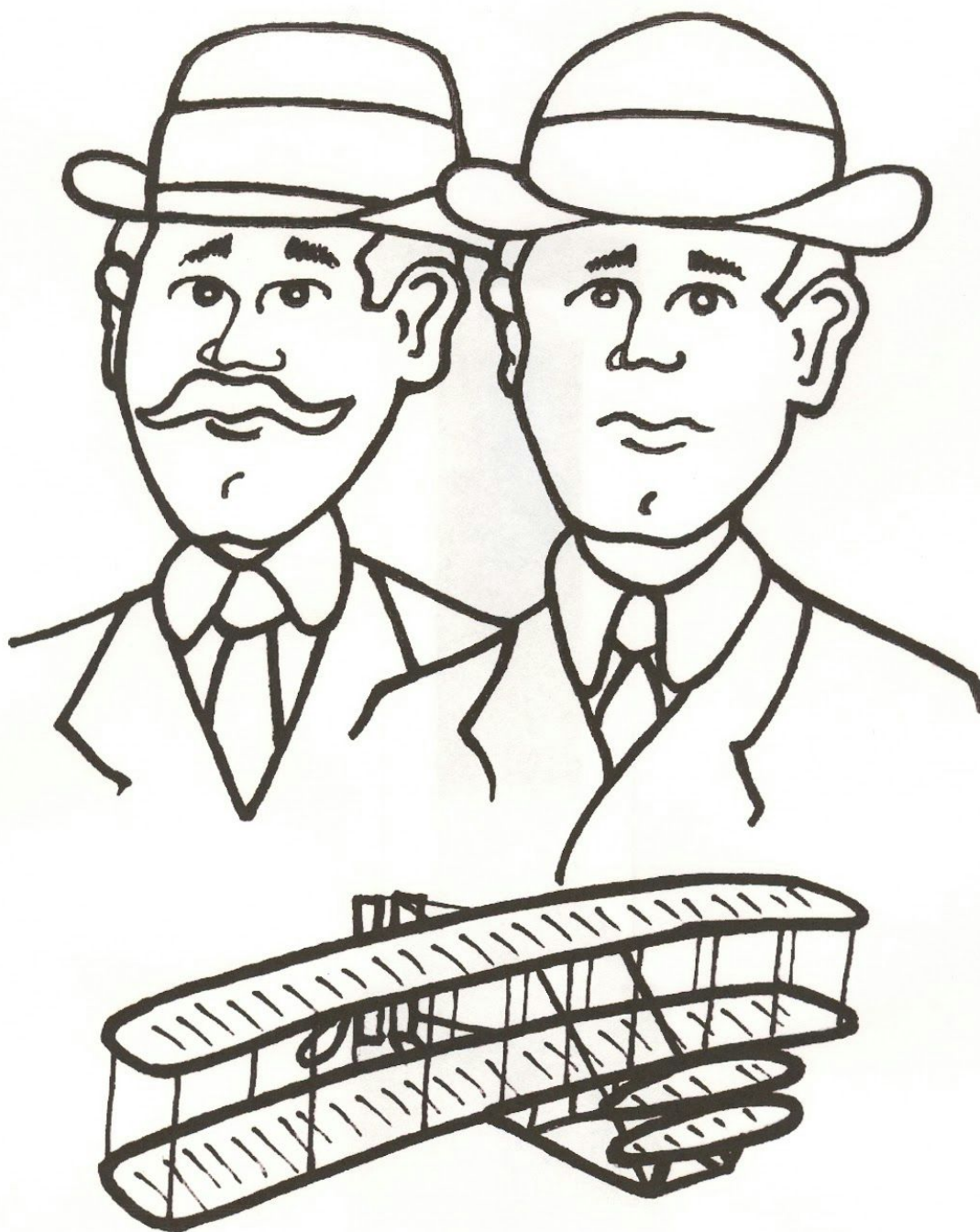
The first time people really flew in the air was on a hot air balloon. It was invented by two brothers.... the Montgolfier brothers in France.



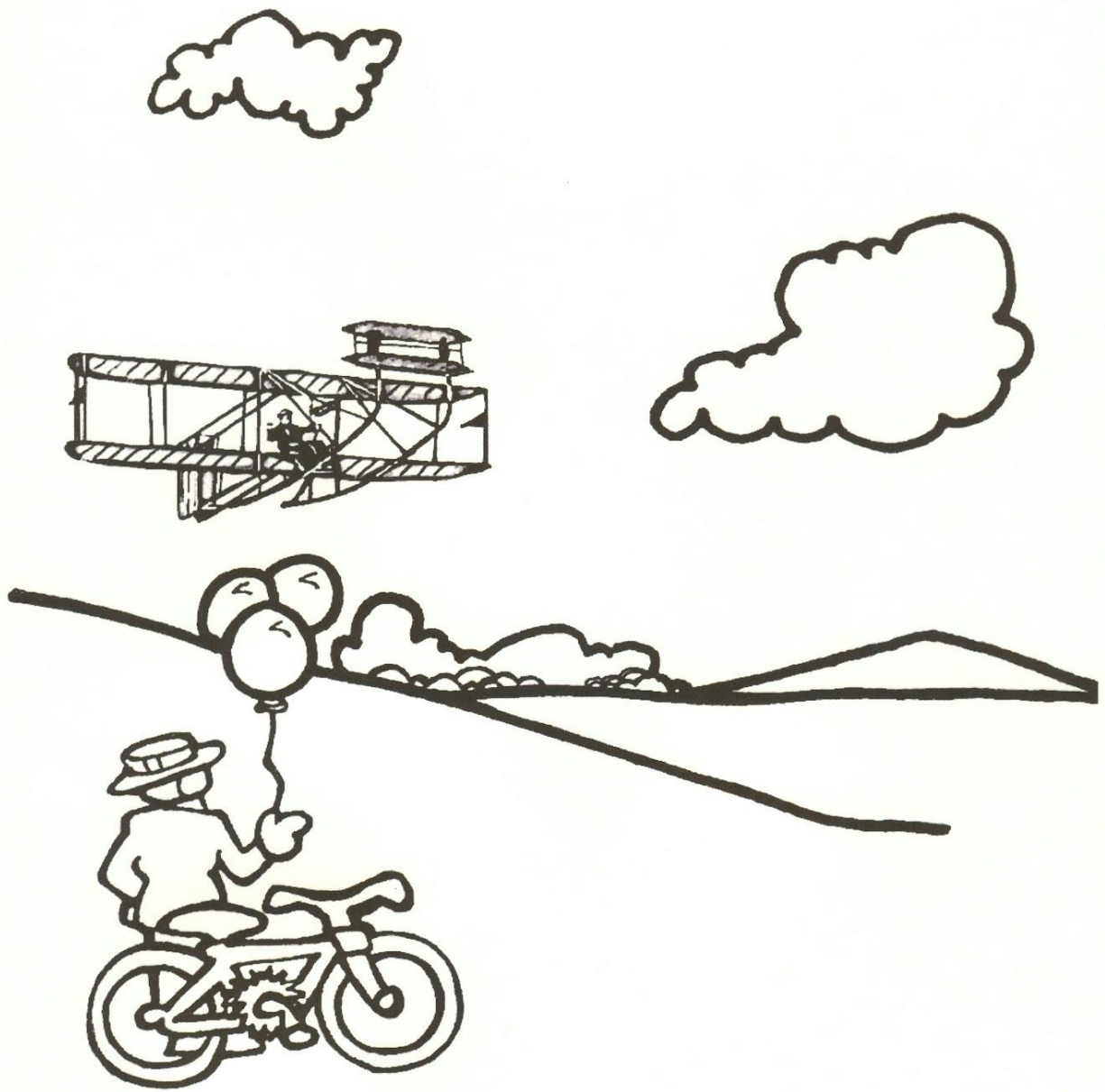
Even the King of France watched and waved as they flew into the air.



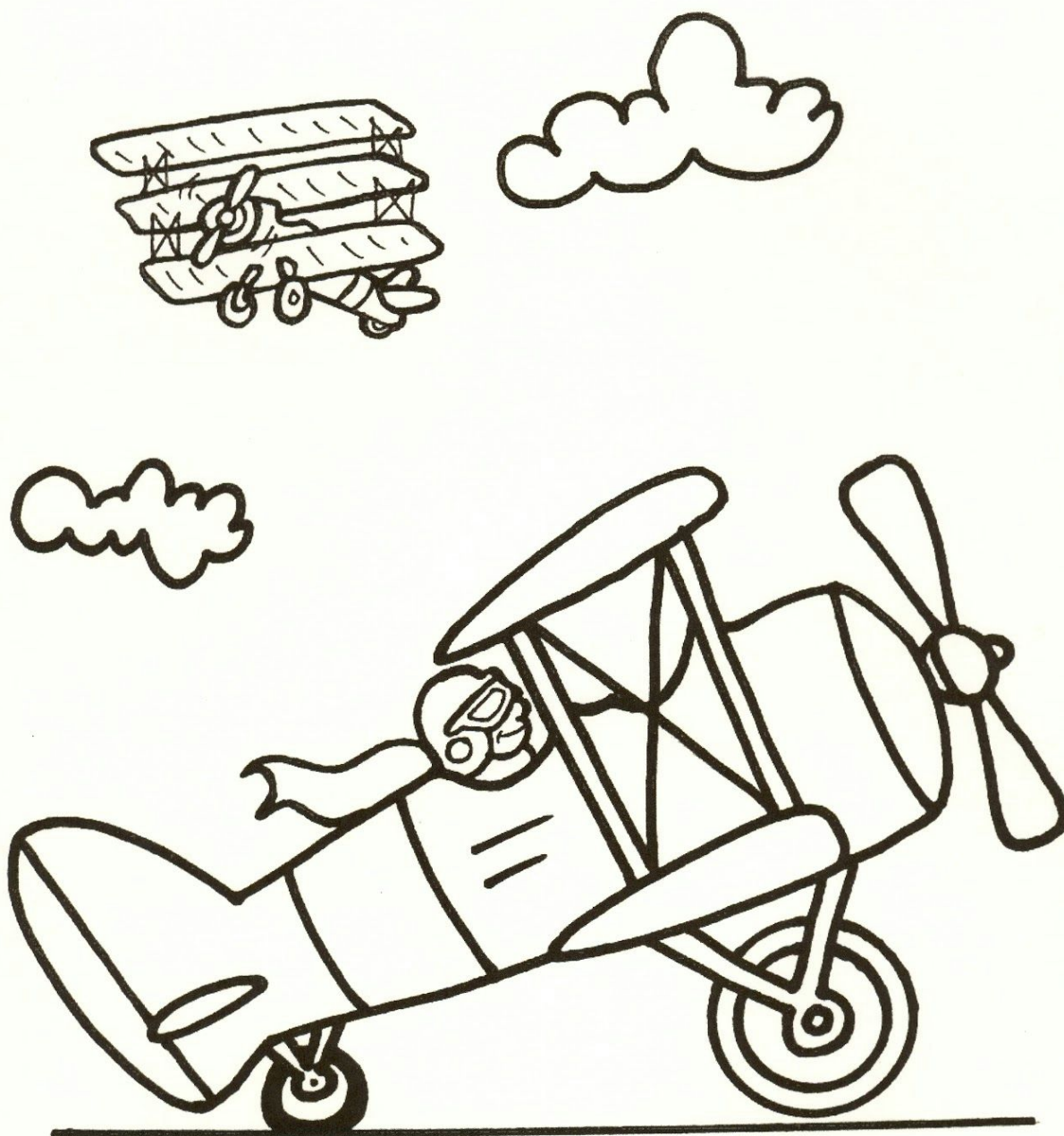
Have you ever made a paper airplane? It's fun to fly but not as much fun as making a "*real*" airplane.



The very first airplane was made by two brothers in 1903. These were different brothers. Their names were Orville and Wilbur Wright. The Wright brothers.



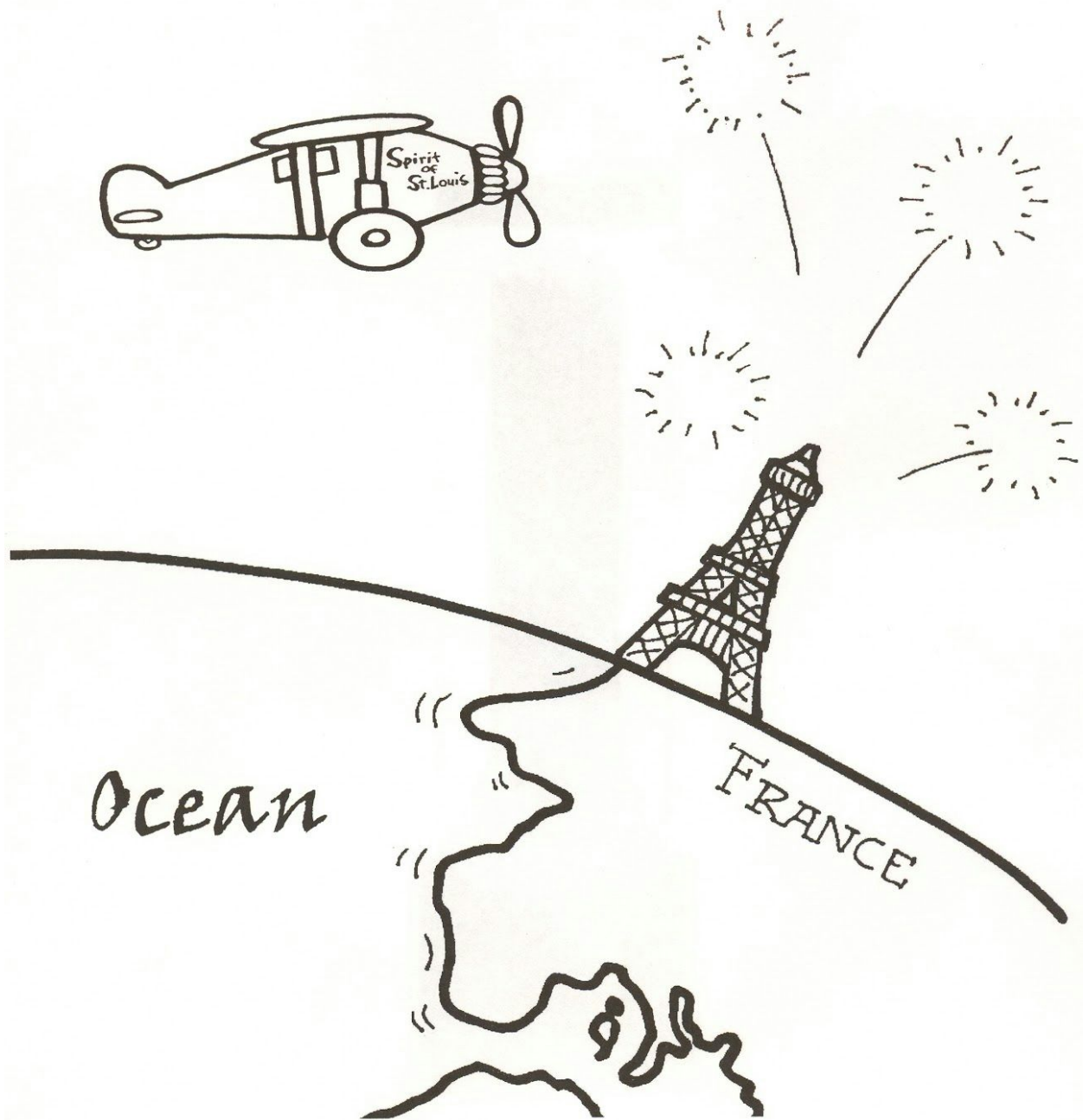
Their airplane was called the Wright Flyer, and boy could it fly. Wow! People loved to watch it go up in the sky.



Later on, other people started making bigger and faster airplanes. Some even had three wings!



In 1927, a man flew an airplane all by himself from America to France. His name was Charles Lindberg.



He had to fly over the Atlantic Ocean all alone. He became very famous for making the trip.



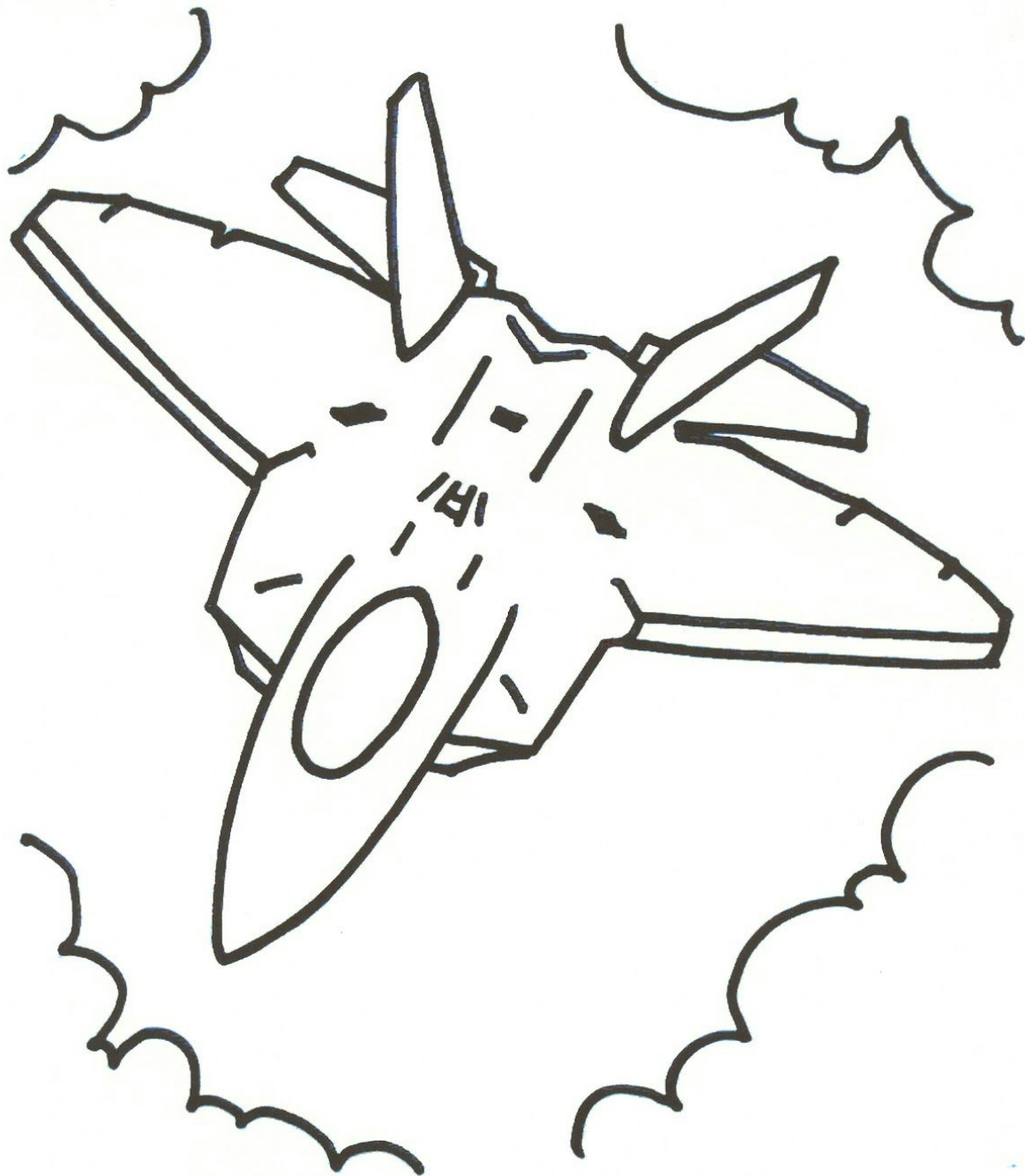
Have you ever seen one of these? It's called a puddle-jumper. If you spin it fast, it will fly high in the air.



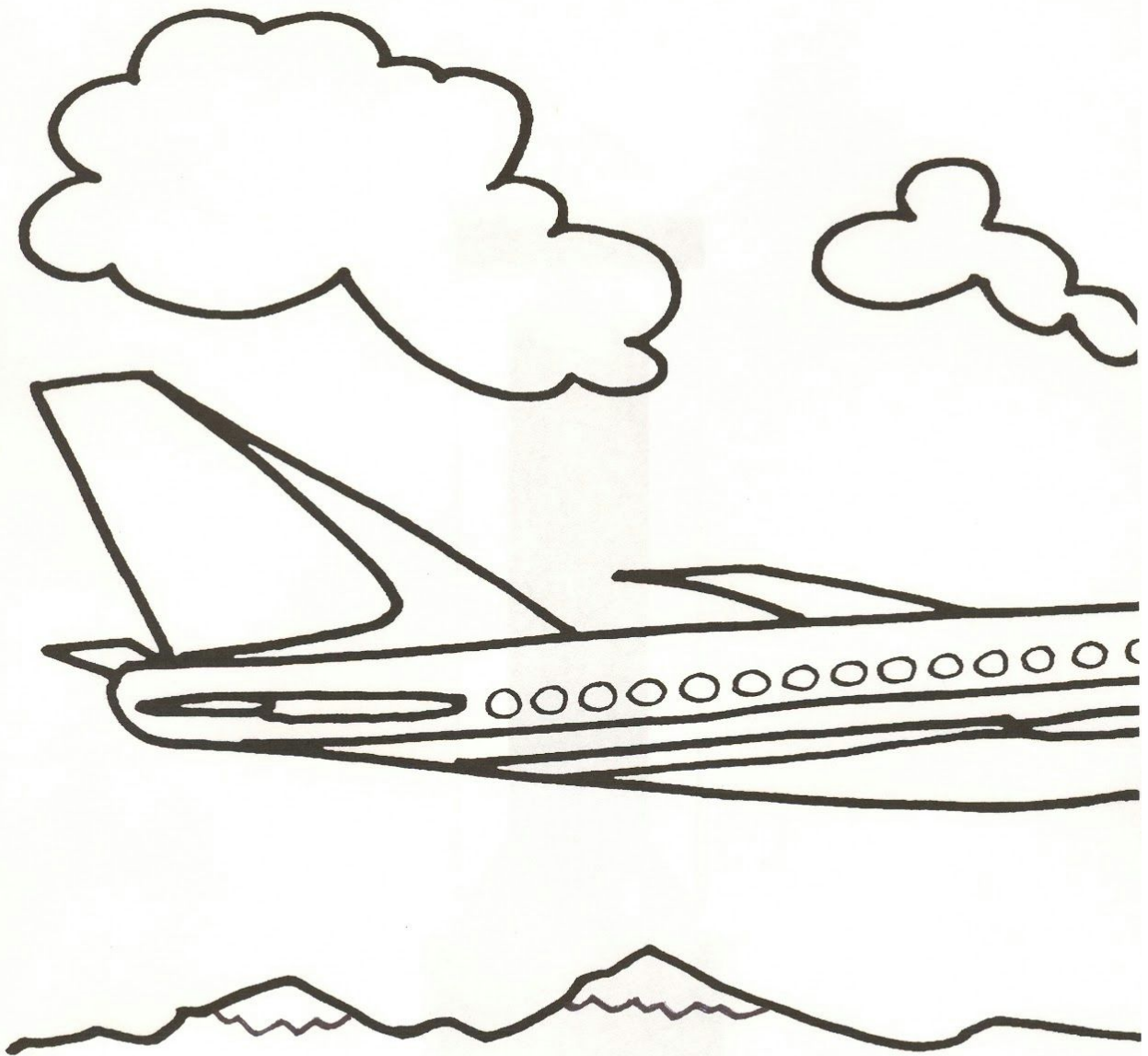
It works just like a helicopter. A helicopter can fly up and around almost anywhere. It's fun to look out and see mountains, trees and water from the air.



Later, in the 1940's, they made even faster airplanes that could fly very high. Many different types of planes were made during World War II.



Today, we have very fast airplanes, like the FA-22 Raptor. It's a jet airplane. Did you notice that it doesn't have a propeller on the front?



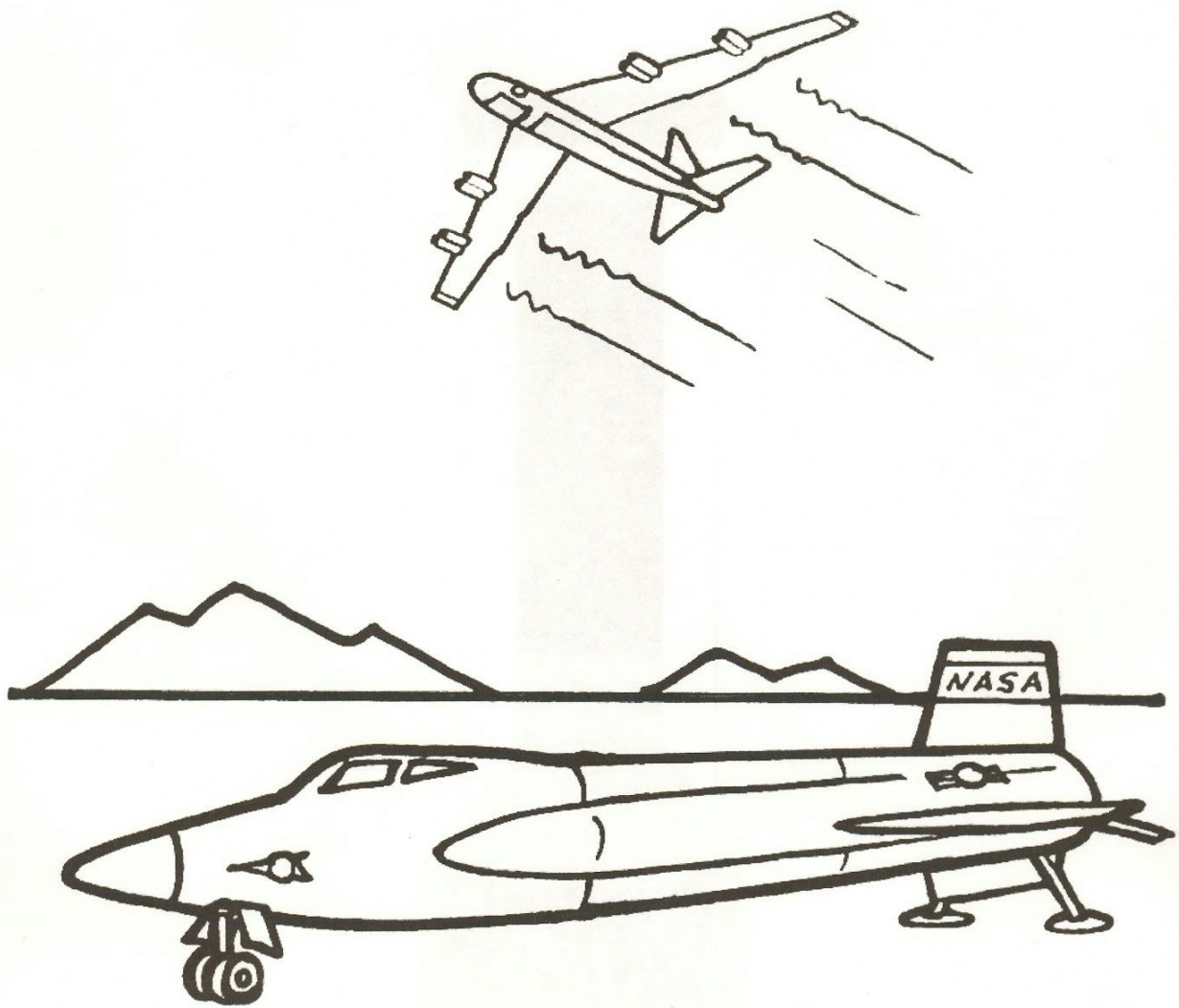
Now that's big! This giant jet airplane, called a 747, can carry over 300 people all at one time.



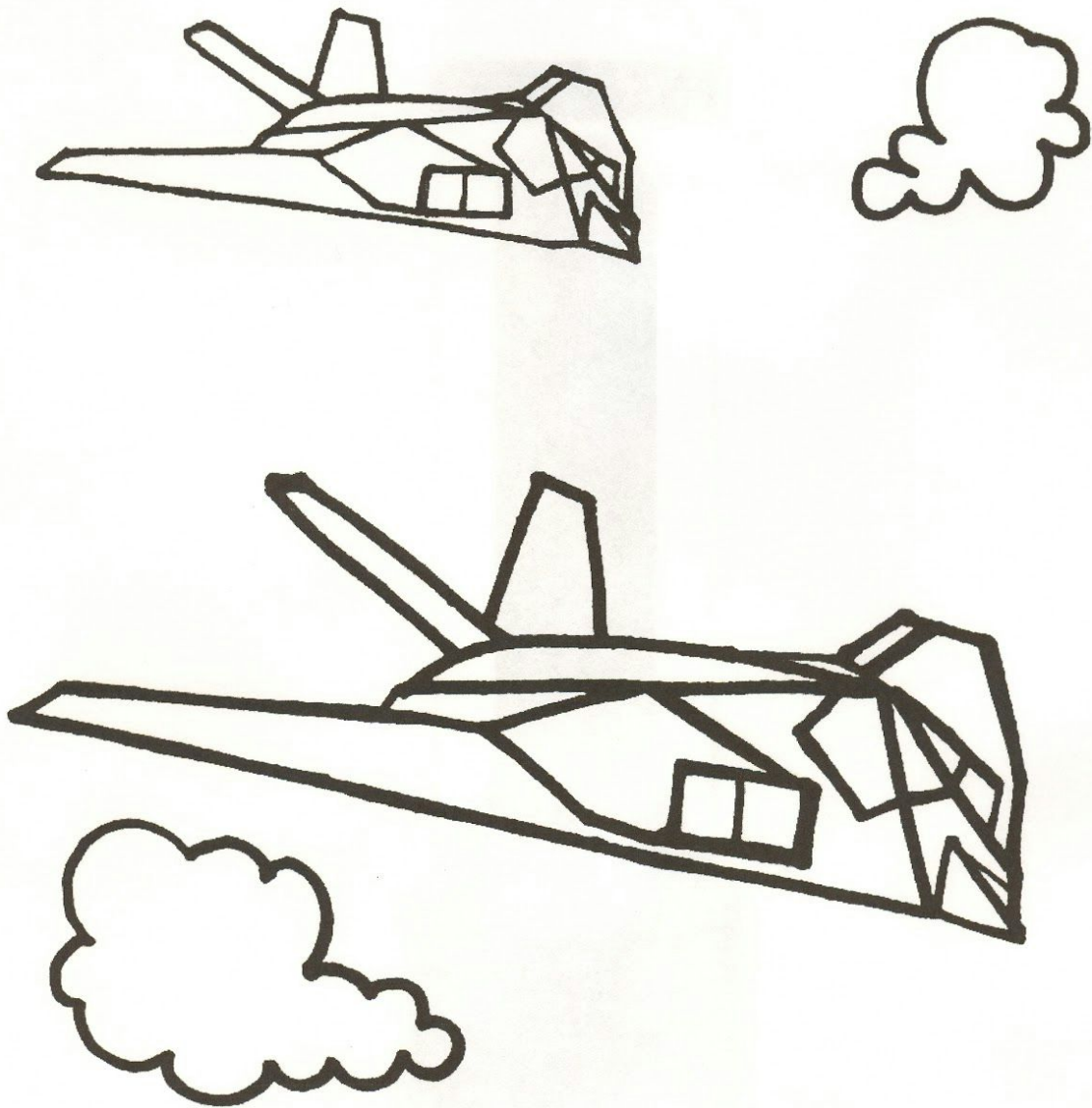
It's fun to be inside this big jet, because it can fly really high and you can look down on the tops of mountains.



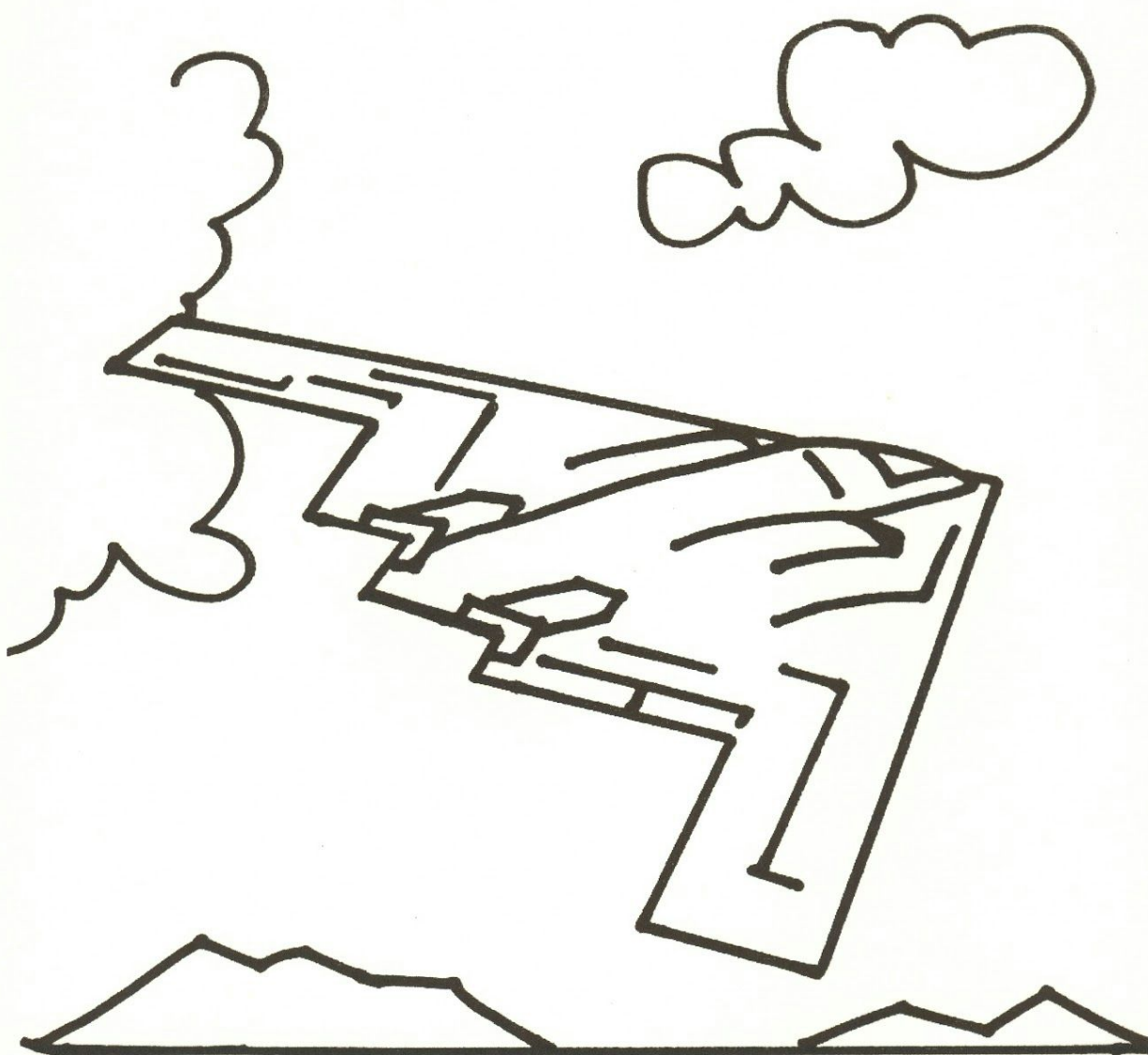
People also built super fast planes called X-Planes. Some used rockets to blast them through the air. This one was called the X-1. It went faster than the speed of sound and made a big bang.



One of the most famous rocket planes was called the X-15. It flew so fast and high that it touched outer space! It dropped from another plane called the B-52. That's it way up high in the sky.



Some planes are funny looking but very cool. These are called Stealth Fighters. They have a special design to keep them top secret.



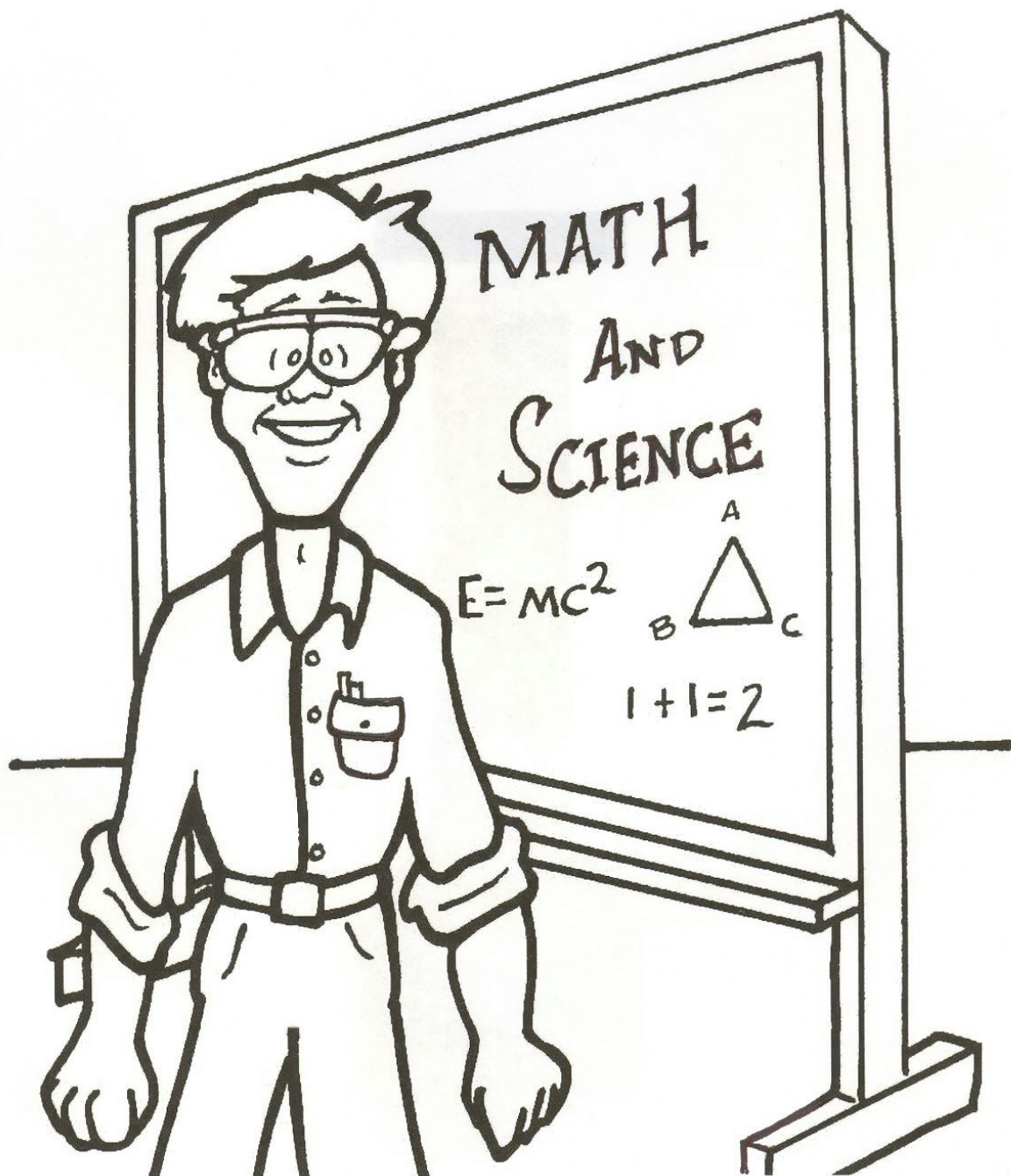
This is a really cool plane. It's called the B-2 Bomber. Did you notice that there is no tail? It uses lots of computers to help it fly.



Remember the Montgolfier brothers and the Wright brothers? Well, here are two more brothers, Dick and Burt Rutan. They like making and flying fun airplanes.



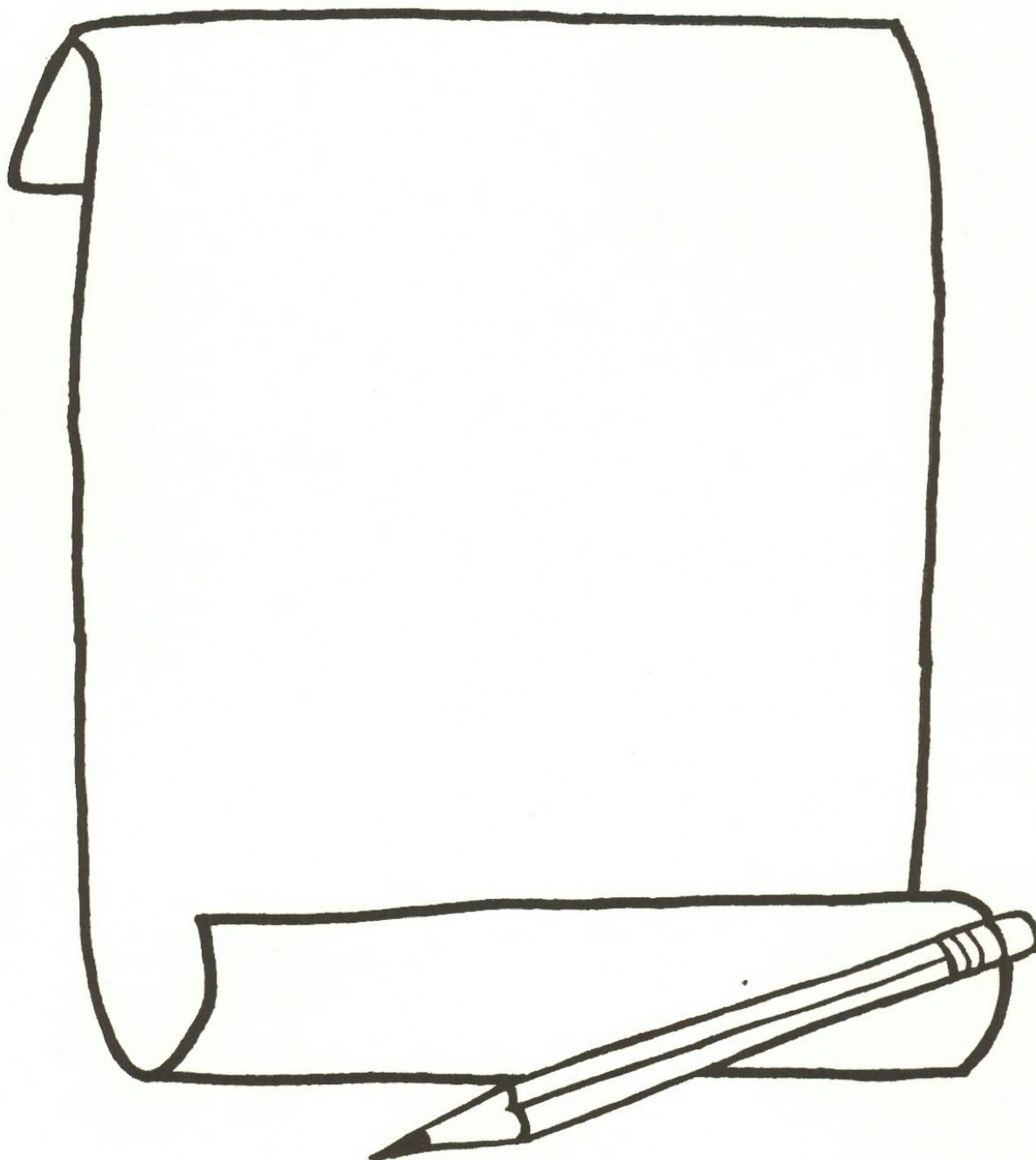
Here is a famous plane that Burt made and Dick helped to fly. It was famous because it was the first plane to fly around the world on one tank of gas! It was called Voyager.



The best way to get to fly and make airplanes is to study science and math in school. All of these people in this book did and look what they got to do!



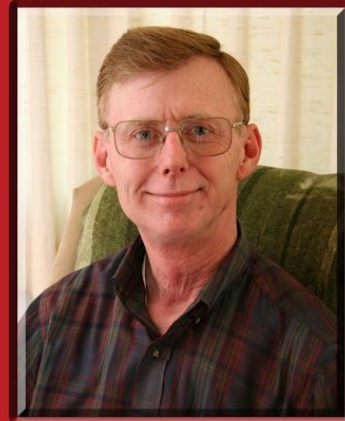
Well, that's the story of flight. I sure had fun and I hope you did too. Maybe you'll make or fly airplanes one day when you grow up. Say, would you like to have more fun? Just turn the page.



Draw and color an airplane of your own. Goodluck!

The character of Captain Bob is based on a real person, Bob Redman.

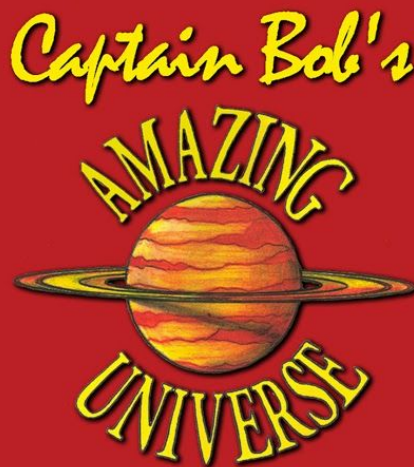
Bob grew up in California's Mojave Desert in an area called the Antelope Valley. It was an exciting and fun place to grow up because there were always airplanes, jets and rocket planes flying in the sky. Many of these are very famous and are pictured in this coloring book.



Bob's other love is watching rockets and robots blast off to explore new worlds! Bob also shares his knowledge and enthusiasm with the community and gives presentations to schools about air and space to inspire children to explore our "Amazing Universe".

You can find out more about Bob on his website:

www.rockets-and-robots.com



Look for more "Amazing Universe" coloring books coming soon!