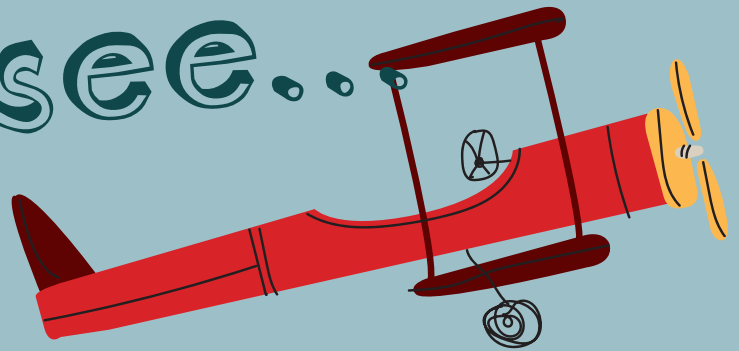


Fun Facts about the Robin Goch monoplane

From the sky

I can see...



Amgueddfa
Genedlaethol
y Glannau

STORI DIWYDIANT A
BLAENGAREDD CYMRU

National
Waterfront
Museum

WALES' STORY OF
INDUSTRY & INNOVATION



At the National Waterfront Museum one of our visitor's favourite objects is the the 'Robin Goch' monoplane. Use this worksheet to imagine what it was like to fly Wales' first aeroplane! Use the fact file to create a poem that describes what it was like to fly high up in the sky.

The Robin Goch

Watkins built the aeroplane at home by himself.

Robin Goch (Welsh for 'Robin Red breast') is the first aeroplane to be designed, built and flown in Wales.

Its creator, Charles Horace Watkins, is believed to have flown the plane in 1908.



What are planes used for?

A type of vehicle.

A mode of transport.

Flying was such a new technology when the Robin Goch flew so it was very dangerous. It is much safer now.

How does it work?

An engine turns a propeller at the front of the plane. The Robin Goch would have been very noisy! The pilot sat very close to the engine so it was also very smelly from the engine fumes.

A plane's wing is basically an 'air deflector': the wing pushes air down and, in return, the air pushes the wing up. The big difference between planes and birds is that a bird flaps its wings up and down, a plane's wings stay still.

What does it look like?

The plane is painted red. Like all aeroplanes it has two wings and this is just like birds (that's why it was given the name the Robin Goch!)

It has wheels to help it land.

It is made mainly from wood.

The pilot's seat is made from a kitchen chair!

The cockpit is open so it would have been very cold for the pilot and you would get very wet if it rained.

Choose four words to describe what it would have felt like to fly the Robin Goch for the first time: Here are a few examples **exciting** and **brilliant**

1

2

3

4

Why do you think Charles Horace Watkins wanted to create the first aeroplane in Wales?

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Think about what Charles Horace Watkins would have seen below him as he was flying? Think about what has changed in the past 100 years.

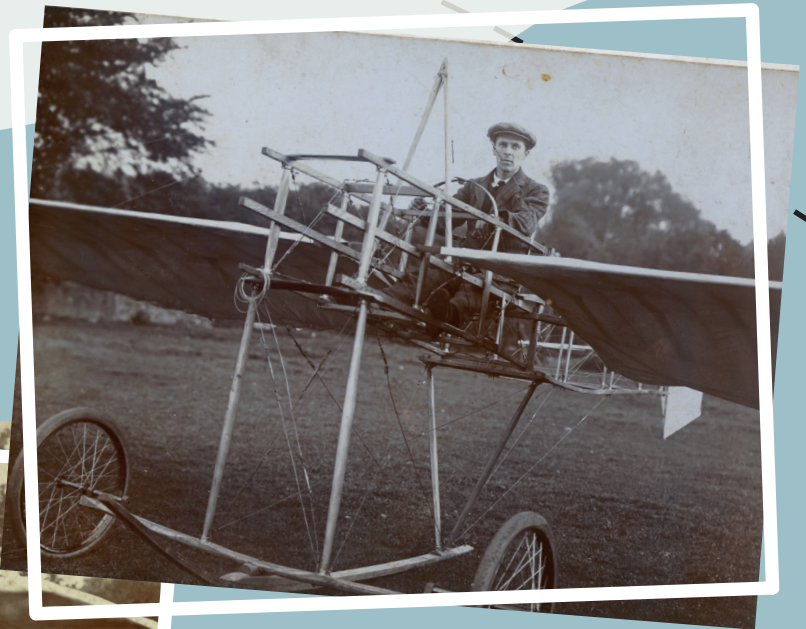
Do aeroplanes look like the Robin Goch now? What has changed?

Fun fact!

The first ever recorded flight was by the Wright Brothers in the USA in 1903.

The Robin Goch was Wales' first plane and flew in 1908, just five years later.

Flying was such a new technology when the Robin Goch flew so it was very dangerous. Many changes have been made so that flying is much safer now.



Now combine your efforts to create a poem. Imagine you are Charles Horace Watkins and complete the sentences below

When I was flying I could see...

.....
.....

When I fly my aeroplane I feel ...

.....
.....

When I fly my aeroplane I hear...

.....
.....

Now add your own lines to complete the poem.

.....
.....

