The Activity



- Find out how forces affect parachutes.
- Feel the power of 'Air Resistance' with our cargo parachute.
- Make and test a tissue parachute.
- Find out which shapes and sizes work best, and why.

Parachutes

Hendon has its own special place in the history of the parachute.

On 9th May 1914, William Newell made the first parachute jump from an aeroplane in Great Britain, here at Hendon Aerodrome.

Even though parachutes existed during the First World War, pilots didn't generally use them as they were so bulky. Observers in Kite Balloons did have parachutes.

During the Second World War parachutes were used to drop troops behind enemy lines.

Today, pilots in fast jets have parachutes in their ejector seats which open automatically when they eject from the plane.

Parachutes

Parachutes slow down objects as they move through the air. These are a few uses of parachutes.

Dropping personnel
Dropping cargo (food or supplies)
Dropping propaganda
Slowing down planes when they land



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Parachutes around the museum

Milestones of Flight

Historic Hangars





Bomber Hall







Battle of Britain Hall



