

GLOSSARY: F & G

This webpage found at:
<http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu/Curricula/AerospaceSupp/Activities/Glossary.htm>

F

Federal Aviation Administration - U.S. Government Agency that sets the rules, regulations and guidelines for pilot safety, qualifications and aircraft safety

fighter kite² - small, maneuverable kites flown on one line. In Asia, their lines may be coated with powdered glass to cut an opponents line. In the U.S.A., a flyer touches their opponent's line with their own line to score points.

final - the last leg of the traffic pattern at an airport when the aircraft is aligned to fly straight onto the landing runway

fins - act like feathers on an arrow to guide the rocket in flight

Fixed Base Operator (FBO) - an airport-based business that parks, services, fuels and may repair or rent aircraft or provide flight training

flaperons¹² - a single surface that combines the control of a flap and an aileron

flaps¹³ - found on the wing closer to the fuselage than the ailerons. They can be lowered to provide more lift at slower speeds so an airplane can take off and land.

flashing beacon - flashing light on an aircraft that helps pilots avoid mid-air collisions

flight attendant - a person who helps passengers and crew

flight deck - the part of the spacecraft where the commander and pilot fly the shuttle

flight path - imaginary line that an object follows when traveling through the air in relation to the ground

floater kite - a kite with a small angle of attack. It rides high in the sky and tends to pull lightly on the string.

fog - a cloud at ground level

four forces of flight - forces acting on object during flight:

- lift - upward force created by airflow as it passes over a wing
- weight - causes an object to be pulled downward. Works against lift.
- thrust - force that moves an object through the air
- drag - limits the speed of an object; opposite of thrust

free fall - the condition of an object falling freely in a gravitational field

fuel - the gasoline or kerosene used to run engines

fuselage - the streamlined body of an aircraft

G

g - a unit of force equal to the standard gravitational acceleration on Earth

galley - the area on the shuttle's middeck where food is prepared

geosynchronous Earth orbit - path in which a spacecraft orbits 35,680 kilometers (22,300 miles) above the equator in a circular orbit. From Earth, the spacecraft goes around Earth in the same amount of time as Earth turns on its axis.

g-force - force produced on the body by changes in velocity; measured in increments of Earth gravity

glider - an airplane without an engine

global positioning system (GPS) - navigating by using space satellites to triangulate the position of an aircraft

gondola - a basket or cabin that hangs beneath a balloon used to hold passengers or equipment

gravity - the force of attraction between all mass in the universe

ground speed - speed relative to the ground while traveling in the air

ground support crew - a person or group of people who helps with aircraft, crew and passengers

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There are no plans for future updates.