

Sco2: The Balloon

Key Words and Concepts:

Century: one hundred years

Discover: find out something for the first time

Float: stay on top of a liquid

Insect: small animal with six legs

Rise: go higher; become more

Sound: healthy; in good condition

Suspend: to hang something from something else

Wicker basket: basket made of long thin pieces of wood that are woven together

P1. Instructional objectives:

1. Learning about the way man first started to fly.
2. Learning some new words such as century, float, rise, suspend, etc.

P2: The Balloon

[Instruction: Read the following passage as carefully and as fast as you can. You can also listen to a recording of this passage after doing the comprehension check.]

Once, long age, the air belonged to the birds and insects. But in 1783 after centuries of talk about flying, man finally found a way to leave the ground, in that year it was discovered that a bag, or balloon, filled with hot air or with hydrogen gas would rise and float in the air.

The first passengers to go up, not by their own choice, were a sheep, a rooster, and a duck. They were suspended from the balloon in a wicker basket. When they came back safe and sound, men began to go up never sure where or when they would land.

P3. Comprehension Check of "The Balloon"

[Instruction: Complete the following statements with the alternative which best fits each blank space. You are allowed to move on to the next section after answering 4 items correctly.]

1. Before 1783 the air belonged to.....
 - a. the roosters and ducks
 - b. the flying objects
 - c. the birds and balloons
 - d. the birds and insects
2. The balloon made it possible for man.....
 - a. to become a bird
 - b. to discover the earth
 - c. to fly
 - d. to live
3. The balloon would rise because of.....
 - a. the cold weather
 - b. the hot air which was inside it

- c. the engine which used gasoline
- d. such birds like roosters or ducks

4. Men decided to fly when.....

- a. the first balloon carrying animals landed safely
- b. they had become very rich
- c. they had become like ducks and roosters
- d. the first airplanes could carry men

5. According to the passage, a balloon is.....

- a. a bag filled with air
- b. a wicker basket filled with birds
- c. an airplane for carrying animals
- d. a toy for noisy children