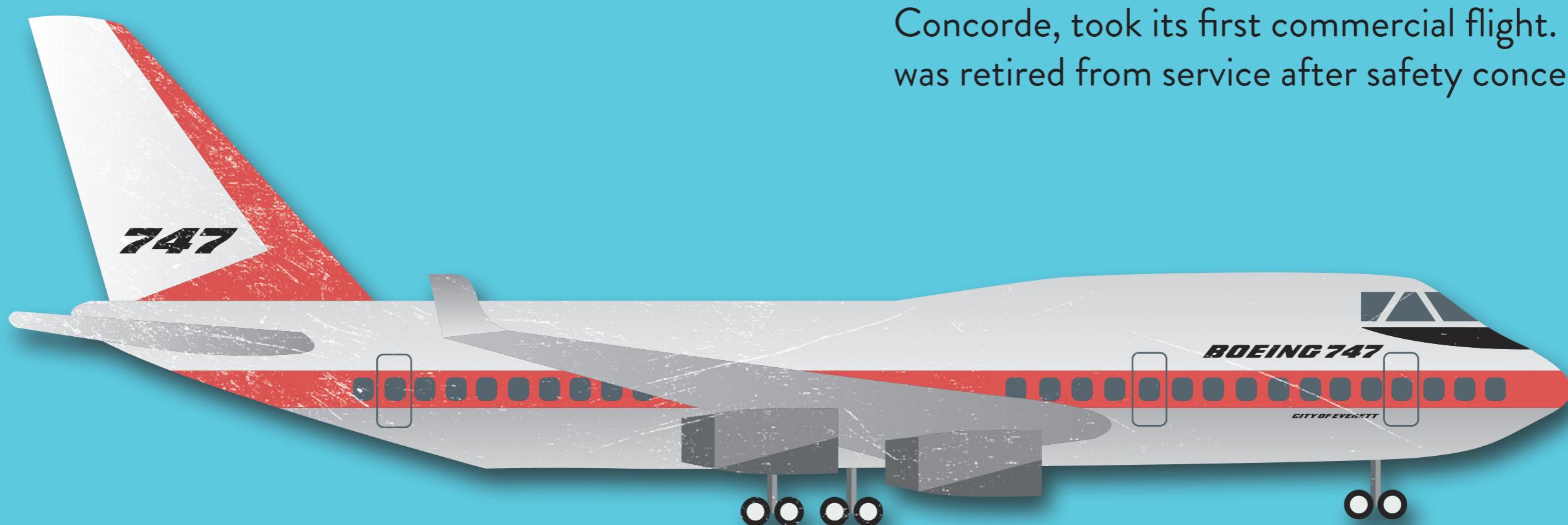


HISTORY OF FLIGHT

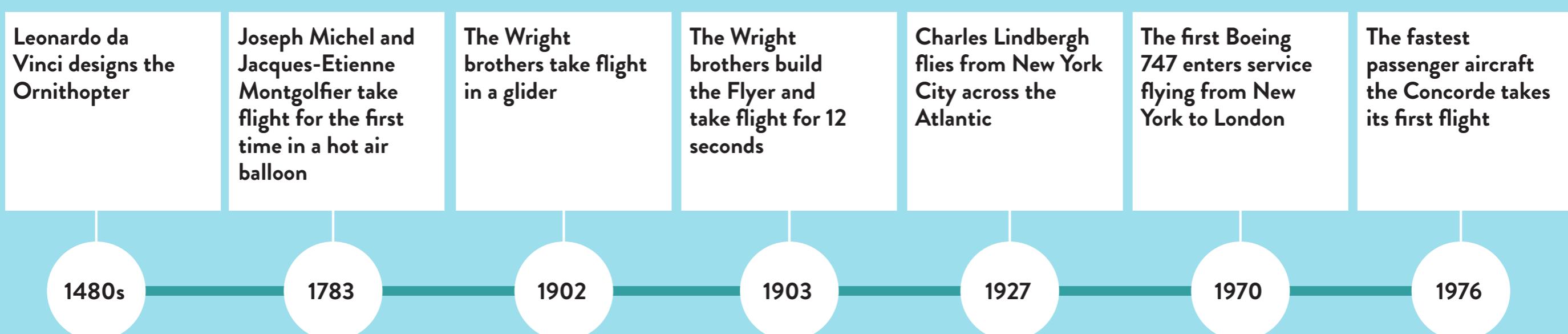
Key Facts

- The Ornithopter is the first flying machine to be designed, although it was never built. It was created by the famous inventor Leonardo da Vinci in the 1480s..
- People flew for the first time in 1783. Two French brothers (Joseph-Michel and Jacques-Étienne Montgolfier) built the first hot air balloon out of cloth and paper.
- Wilbur and Orville Wright made kites and gliders. In 1902 the Wright brothers tested their gliders in North Carolina, USA.

- In 1903 the Wright brothers built a plane called Flyer. The plane flew for 12 seconds. This was the first ever flight!
- In 1927 Charles Lindbergh took off from New York City for the first non-stop flight across the Atlantic Ocean.
- Air travel was becoming more popular and planes needed to be bigger. In 1970 the first Boeing 747 entered service on Pan Am's "New York – London" route.
- In 1976 the fastest aircraft the world has ever known, Concorde, took its first commercial flight. In 2003 it was retired from service after safety concerns.



Timeline of key events



Vocabulary



- Hot air balloon:** a large balloon that is filled with heated air and that floats in the sky.
- Gliders:** aeroplanes with no engine.
- Engine:** a machine that produces motion or power for doing work.
- Propeller:** a device with blades that move around to push against air or water.

Key People



- Orville and Wilbur Wright** were the first to make a successful human flight with a craft that was powered by an engine and was heavier than air.
- In 1932, **Amelia Earhart** became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. In 1935, she also became the first woman to fly across the Pacific.
- Bessie Coleman** was the first woman of African-American descent to hold a pilot license. She got her license in 1921.