

Man to take rocket trip to show Earth is flat

24th November, 2017



An American scientist is going to try and prove his belief that the Earth is flat. The man's name is Mike Hughes and he is 61 years old. He is a flat-Earther – someone who believes that the Earth is flat and not round. He has been interested in

science for many years and taught himself how to make a rocket. He will get into his rocket on Saturday and fire it hundreds of meters in the air. The rocket cost Mr Hughes \$20,000 to make. Hughes said it is powered by steam and can fly at 800kmh. He told reporters why he made his rocket. He said: "I like to do extraordinary things that no one else can do. No one in the history of mankind has designed, built and launched himself in his own rocket."

Mr Hughes says when he flies above Earth, he will take photos to prove that the Earth is flat and disc-shaped. He believes that the Earth is just a mass of land surrounded by large walls of ice at the edges. He said: "I don't believe in science." He added that his project will "shut the door on this ball-Earth" idea. He is a little worried about the flight. He said: "It's as scary as hell, but none of us are getting out of this world alive." Hughes said he wants to run for Governor of California after his rocket tests. He hopes his flat-Earth discovery will help him do this. People can see Mr Hughes' flight this weekend live on his website. He said he has put out enough food for his four cats just in case something goes wrong.

Sources: newshub.co.nz / thesun.co.uk / metro.co.uk

Writing

Is the Earth flat or round? How do you know?

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

scientist / Earth / flat / rocket / \$20,000 / steam / designed / history / mankind / photos / land / walls / ice / project / flight / scary / hell / alive / tests / website

True / False

- The man taking the rocket trip is from Armenia. T / F
- A flat-Earther is someone who doesn't think the Earth is round. T / F
- The man's rocket cost \$2 million to build. T / F
- The rocket can travel at a speed of 800 kph. T / F
- The man believes the Earth is surrounded by walls of ice. T / F
- The man is not at all worried about his flight in the rocket. T / F
- The man said we will all get off this world alive. T / F
- The man gave his cats extra food just in case something went wrong. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| 1. prove | a. finding |
| 2. belief | b. remarkable |
| 3. fire | c. created |
| 4. extraordinary | d. frightening |
| 5. designed | e. opinion |
| 6. surrounded | f. sufficient |
| 7. edges | g. show |
| 8. scary | h. encircled |
| 9. discovery | i. sides |
| 10. enough | j. launch |

Discussion – Student A

- Why do people believe the Earth is flat?
- Why do people believe the Earth is round?
- How interested are you in science?
- Would you like to go into space in a rocket?
- What things have you built?
- What extraordinary things would you like to do?
- What do you think of the Earth?
- Where would you like to go in your own rocket?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. the Earth is flat and | a. wrong |
| 2. taught himself how | b. of ice |
| 3. it is powered | c. things |
| 4. I like to do extraordinary | d. about the flight |
| 5. No one in the history | e. not round |
| 6. take photos to prove that | f. by steam |
| 7. surrounded by large walls | g. case |
| 8. He is a little worried | h. of mankind |
| 9. just in | i. the Earth is flat |
| 10. something goes | j. to make a rocket |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What would change if Mr Hughes is right?
- How important is science?
- What are your favourite things about science?
- What things do you think are 'scary as hell'?
- What do you think of Mr Hughes' project?
- How kind is Mr Hughes for caring for his cats?
- What questions would you like to ask Mike Hughes?

Spelling

- try and vreop his belief
- interested in ncsicee for many years
- it is powered by maset
- I like to do xioardtryaren things
- in the history of mndkani
- aeunchd! himself in his own rocket
- land rnosdudure by large walls of ice
- at the deegs
- his rtjoepc will shut the door on this ball-Earth idea
- It's as aycsr as hell
- his flat-Earth ovryedsic
- something goes gnorw

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. e	3. j	4. b	5. c
6. h	7. i	8. d	9. a	10. f

Role Play

Role A – Biology

You think biology is the most important science. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their science isn't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): physics, environmental science or computer science.

Role B – Physics

You think physics is the most important science. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their science isn't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): biology, environmental science or computer science.

Role C – Environmental Science

You think environmental science is the most important science. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their science isn't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): physics, biology or computer science.

Role D – Computer Science

You think computer science is the most important science. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their science isn't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): physics, environmental science or biology.

Speaking – Science

Rank these with your partner. Put the most important sciences at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| • Physics | • Environmental science |
| • Biology | • Computer science |
| • Chemistry | • Health science |
| • Neurology | • Sports science |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	T	e	T	f	F	g	F	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.