



MERLIN *flight simulation group*

IT FLIES WINGLETS

The Martian family were having breakfast one morning – Maisie and Max, the Martian children were arguing over their galaxy star cereal, and Daddy Martian became very annoyed.

‘I know’, he cried ‘ Let’s all go on holiday. Out to the garden everyone to check out the spaceship!’

However, when the family went down to where they parked their spaceship they found it needed rather a lot of work, the paint was peeling off, and the rockets wouldn’t start.

Your Mission - could you design a new spaceship for the Martian family?

Perhaps consider the following points:-

What shape should the spaceship be so that it can go fast?

What colour should it be – should it blend in with the sky, or be bright and show up against it?

How would the spaceship take off? What sort of engines would it have? Would it have rockets underneath to fire it upwards? How many engines/rockets would it need?

How would the Martian family navigate through space? What sort of equipment would they need?

How would they steer the spaceship? Would it be like a car, or an aircraft?

Should there be windows? If so how large should they be?

How would they land the spaceship – should it have some sort of landing gear – like an aircraft?

What would the spaceship be made from? Some sort of metal perhaps? Do you think that it would be very hot flying fast through space?

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