

How do parachutes work?

By Hannah O'Keefe

Parachutes are the simple things that give you a safe landing if you are falling from far up. Parachutes use two different forces called air resistance and gravity. I bet you didn't know that!

Gravity:

Gravity is a very strong force that pulls things closer to the core that is within the earth. Gravity pulls us closer to the earth otherwise we would be floating around everywhere.

Air Resistance:

Air resistance keeps lighter things in the air for a tiny bit longer. If you walk, air passes you. Air resistance can help you have a better landing, that is because air is everywhere.

Who Discovered Gravity?:

Sir Isaac Newton was a mathematician who discovered gravity. He was sitting under an apple tree when an apple fell on his head. That's when he discovered everything gets pulled closer to earth.

Parachutes designs:

Parachutes are not so simple to make. All parachutes must be bigger than the person who is falling, otherwise gravity will pull you faster to the ground. In the back pack there are three parachutes. The big one (main one), a backup just in case and a small one that pulls the big one up from the back pack (pilot parachute).

Air resistance and gravity help a parachute make a safe landing and Sir Isaac Newton discovered gravity. There are three parachutes in one backpack. Parachutes are not so simple as you thought they are.

