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Yuri Gagarin

Yuri Gagarin was a pilot and an astronaut. He was famous for being the first man in space.

He was born in 1934. His family lived in a small village near Moscow, Russia.



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Yuri Gagarin was a fighter pilot. He also helped to design a reusable spacecraft.

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Space travel

Yuri became the first person to go into space on 12th April 1961.

He travelled in a spacecraft called *Vostok 3KA-3* as part of the Vostok 1 mission. It needed huge rocket boosters to reach space, but they dropped off after 10 minutes and left him in a small metal capsule.



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Earth orbit

Yuri travelled all around Earth in this capsule. This meant he was the first person to orbit Earth. His flight lasted two hours.

To get back to Earth, Yuri ejected himself from the capsule and used a parachute to land safely.



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Later life

Yuri travelled all over the world, telling people about his space travels.

He died in a plane crash when he was 34 years old.



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