Extreme Kite Surfing: Know the Lingo

Air time: amount of time spent in the air while jumping

Bail: letting go of the kite's control bar and kicking off the board

Board-offs: taking one or both feet off the board

Brain fart: forgetting the trick midair and crashing in the water

Charlie Browner: kite surfer

Chop: little bumps on the water surface created by wind

Downwinder: kite surfing trip from one place to another that is farther downwind

DP: dawn patrol, an early session

Grab: holding the board with one hand

Inverts: any trick done upside down

Kite loops: looping the kite around 360 degrees while doing a spin

Kitemare: a kite surfing accident, disaster

Lines: strong cords connecting a kite surfer to the kite

Nuking: winds blowing at great speeds

Rigging up: putting things together to go kite surfing

Wipeout: crashing



The Legaignoux brothers developed modern kite surfing.

They invented the first **inflatable** kite. Inflatable means it can be pumped with air. The gear got better. So the sport got better.

Laird Hamilton is a big wave surfer. He made kite surfing popular. He used kites to build speed. He wanted to catch big waves. Many surfers like kite surfing. Sometimes, it's too windy to go surfing. So they go kite surfing instead.

Kite surfing was about big jumps. It was about getting big air. Now it's also about doing extreme tricks.