

Marie Curie

Marie was a famous scientist. A scientist is a person who asks questions and makes discoveries about the world around them.



Early Life

Marie was born in Poland in 1867. Her family were very poor. From a young age, she loved maths and science.

Marie moved to Paris where she met Pierre Curie. They got married and worked together as scientists.

Marie the Scientist

Marie and Pierre worked together to do experiments and find out new things. Marie found out that a strange glow was made by something she called radioactivity.

Marie and Pierre were given a prize for finding out about radioactivity. Marie won another prize for finding out about radium. Marie found out that radium could help people who were ill.

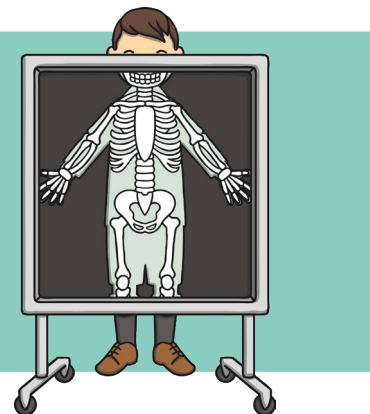


How Is Marie Remembered?

Marie is remembered as a very important scientist who helped people. A charity that helps ill people is named after her.

Did You Know...?

Marie's work helped to develop x-rays.



Questions

1. What was Marie's job? Tick **one**.

- ☐ teacher
- ☐ pilot
- ☐ scientist

2. Which word describes Marie's family? Tick **one**.

- ☐ poor
- ☐ rich
- ☐ happy

3. What was the name of Marie's husband? Tick **one**.

- ☐ Paul
- ☐ Pierre
- ☐ Peter

4. **Marie found out that radium could help people who were**_____.

Tick **one** word to complete the sentence.

- ☐ old
- ☐ ill
- ☐ sad

5. What did Marie's work help to develop? Tick **one**.

- ☐ the oven
- ☐ the TV
- ☐ the x-ray

Answers

1. What was Marie's job? Tick **one**.

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- ☐ pilot
- ☒ **scientist**

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- ☐ the TV
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Marie Curie



Marie was a famous scientist who made many discoveries. Her work helped develop the x-rays we have today.

Early Life

Marie was born in Poland on 7th November 1867. She was the youngest of five children and her parents were poor teachers. From a young age, Marie loved maths and science.

Marie moved to Paris to study science, where she met Pierre Curie. They soon got married and began working together as scientists.

Marie the Scientist

Marie was interested in a strange glow coming from some soils and rocks. Marie and Pierre worked together to find out why this happened. Marie discovered that the glow was caused by something she called radioactivity.

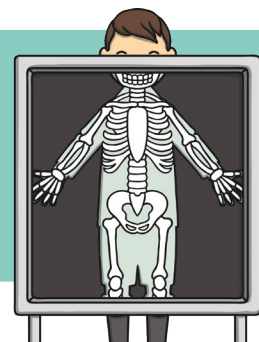
In 1903, Marie and Pierre were awarded the Nobel Prize for the discovery of radioactivity. This is the best award a scientist can be given. In 1911, Marie won another Nobel Prize for her discovery of polonium and radium. Marie found out that radium could treat people who were very ill. It is still used to treat ill people today.

How Is Marie Remembered?

Marie is remembered as a very important scientist who helped people. A charity that helps ill people is named after her.

Did You Know...?

Marie's work helped to develop x-rays.



Questions

1. What is Marie most famous for? Tick **one**.

- ☐ making cakes
- ☐ making discoveries
- ☐ writing books

2. Number these events in Marie's life 1-4 in the order they happened. The first one has been done for you.

- ☐ Marie moved to Paris to study science.
- ☐ Marie won another Nobel Prize.
- ☒ **1** Marie was born on 7th November 1867.
- ☐ Marie and Pierre were awarded the Nobel Prize.

3. Draw lines to match these sentences about Marie.

From a young age, Marie...

a strange glow coming from some soils and rocks.

Marie showed that...

women were just as good at science as men.

Marie was interested in...

loved science and maths.

4. **Find** and **copy** an adjective used in the text to describe Marie as a scientist.

5. What did Marie find out about radium?

Answers

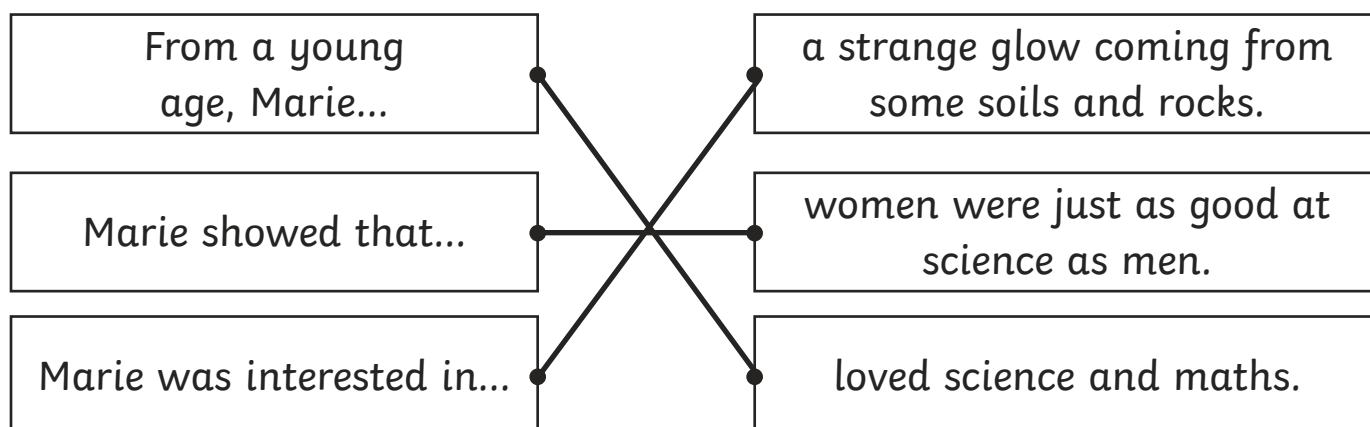
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- 4** Marie won another Nobel Prize.
- 1** Marie was born on 7th November 1867.
- 3** Marie and Pierre were awarded the Nobel Prize.

3. Draw lines to match these sentences about Marie.



4. **Find** and **copy** an adjective used in the text to describe Marie as a scientist.

Accept famous or important.

5. What did Marie find out about radium?

Marie found out that radium could treat people who were very ill.

Marie Curie



Marie was a famous physicist and chemist who made many important discoveries. Her pioneering work helped develop the x-rays we have today.

Early Life

Marie was born in Warsaw, Poland on 7th November 1867. She was the youngest of five children and her parents were poor school teachers. From a young age, Marie loved maths and science and wanted to go to university. However, this was very expensive and most universities didn't let women study science at this time. She worked hard and finally saved enough money to move to Paris.

Marie moved to Paris in 1891 to go to a university to study physics and maths. This was where she met Pierre Curie. They soon got married and began working together as scientists.

Amazing Discoveries

Marie was interested in uranium rays coming from some soils and rocks. Marie and Pierre worked together to work out why this happened. Marie discovered that the effect was caused by something she called radioactivity.



Marie and Pierre were awarded a Nobel Prize for physics in 1903 for the discovery of radioactivity. In 1911, Marie won a Nobel Prize in chemistry for her discovery of two new elements called polonium and radium. Marie discovered that radium could treat people who were very ill and it is still used to treat people today. However, radium was also dangerous and could make people unwell. Marie eventually became ill as a result of working so closely with radioactive materials.

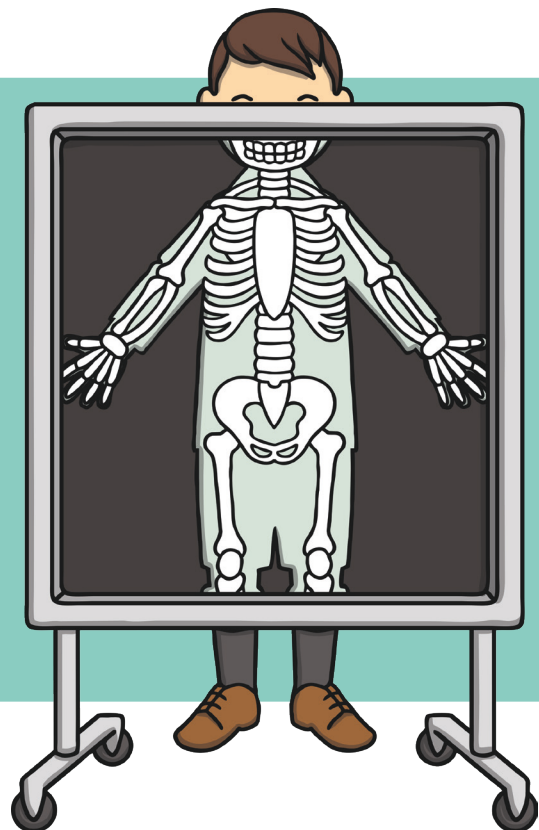
During the First World War, Marie and her daughter Irene created x-ray trucks that could be used to help wounded soldiers who were far from hospitals. These x-ray trucks saved many lives.

Marie's Legacy

Marie continues to inspire scientists to this day. A charity that supports ill people and their families is named after her. She also proved that women could be excellent scientists at a time when some people didn't believe this.

Did You Know...?

Marie was the first woman to be awarded a Nobel Prize and was the first person to win two Nobel Prizes.



Questions

1. What were Marie's scientific jobs? Tick **two**.

- ☐ chemist
- ☐ biologist
- ☐ physicist

2. Number these events in Marie's life 1-4 in the order they happened.

- ☐ Marie moved to Paris in 1891.
- ☐ Marie won the Nobel Prize for her discovery of polonium and radium.
- ☐ Marie was born on 7th November 1867.
- ☐ Marie and Pierre were awarded the Nobel Prize for the discovery of radioactivity.

3. Fill in the missing words.

Marie couldn't go to university straight away because it was too _____ and because she was a _____.

4. **Find** and **copy** an adjective that describes Marie's discoveries.

5. What **two** things could radium do?

- _____
- _____

6. What was Marie the first woman to do? Give **two** reasons why you think this was important.

Answers

1. What were Marie's scientific jobs? Tick **two**.

- ☒ **chemist**
- ☐ biologist
- ☒ **physicist**

2. Number these events in Marie's life 1-4 in the order they happened.

- 2** Marie moved to Paris in 1891.
- 4** Marie won the Nobel Prize for her discovery of polonium and radium.
- 1** Marie was born on 7th November 1867.
- 3** Marie and Pierre were awarded the Nobel Prize for the discovery of radioactivity.

3. Fill in the missing words.

Marie couldn't go to university straight away because it was too **expensive** and because she was a **woman**.

4. **Find** and **copy** an adjective that describes Marie's discoveries.
Accept important or pioneering.

5. What **two** things could radium do?

- **Radium could treat people who were very ill.**
- **It could make people unwell.**

6. What was Marie the **first** woman to do? Give **two** reasons why you think this was important.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Marie was the first woman to be awarded a Nobel Prize and I think this was important because it proved how brilliant her discoveries were and it showed that women were just as good at science as men.