

Women History



Marie about age 15



Marie after she won the Nobel Prize in 1911

Marie Curie

Marie Sklodowska Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland in 1867. Both of her parents, Bronislawa and Wladyslaw Sklodowska, were teachers. She began her university studies and scientific work in Warsaw in 1890.

Her sister had moved to Paris, France to study medicine. Marie joined her there in 1891. There she studied mathematics at the Sorbonne, an important French university. She graduated from the university in 1894.

While in school in Paris, Marie fell in love with Pierre Curie, a teacher in the School of Physics and Chemistry. They shared a love of science and bicycle trips. Marie and Pierre married in 1895.

Together, Marie and Pierre worked on scientific research. They discovered many new elements, such as radium, and its property, radioactivity. In 1903 Marie and Pierre, along with another scientist, shared the Nobel Prize for chemistry. This worldwide award recognizes the work of scientists, authors and other important people. Marie was the first woman to win this award.

Pierre died in an accident on the streets of Paris in 1906. Marie was sad, but continued her work. She was awarded the Nobel Prize again in 1911. This time the award was for physics. She was the first person to win two awards in different sciences.

Marie died in 1934. One of her two daughters would also be awarded the Nobel Prize for chemistry in 1935.



The lab in Warsaw, Poland where Marie did her first scientific work.

What did Marie study at the Sorbonne?

When was Marie awarded her first Nobel Prize?

Where was Marie born?

Who was Marie's husband?

Q
AND
A