



Inspirational People

Ages 9 - 11

Activity Booklet

Marie Curie Fact Sheet



Marie's Life

Marie Curie was born Maria Skłodowska in 1867 in Warsaw, a city in Poland. She lived with her mother, father and four brothers and sisters. Marie's parents were both teachers, and her father taught her the basics of science at a young age. She went to the local schools with her friends, brothers and sisters and was a good student who excelled in her studies.

After she finished school, Marie worked as a private tutor for children in Poland. She wanted to make some money so she could travel to Paris and study science at the University there. At that time, women were not allowed to go to University in Poland, so Marie knew she had to leave Poland if she wanted to continue her scientific work. At the age of 23 or 24, Marie moved to Paris and attended lessons the the University there. She achieved degrees in both Physics and Maths.

In 1895, Marie married Pierre Curie, a Physics professor. She decided to stay in Paris and live with him. Even though the Curies were poor, they were still able to carry out investigations and scientific research. Marie had heard about the work of Henri Becquerel, who had been finding out about x-rays and uranium. She was inspired to do her own research in this area and this is when she discovered the two brand new elements. She named the first of these materials 'polonium' after her home country of Poland.

In 1906, Marie was devastated when Pierre was killed in a road accident. She continued working, but she herself died in 1934 as a result of a blood disorder caused by a lifetime of exposure to dangerous radiation.

Marie Curie Fact Sheet

Achievements

Marie Curie is one of the most famous women in modern science. She achieved many amazing things in her life.

She was the first person to win two Nobel prizes and is still the only person to win Nobel prizes for both Physics and Chemistry.

Marie Curie was the first female professor at the University of Paris, at a time when women found it hard to be accepted as scientists.

Her discoveries and investigations helped our understanding of radioactivity and radiation, or invisible rays that are given off by some materials.

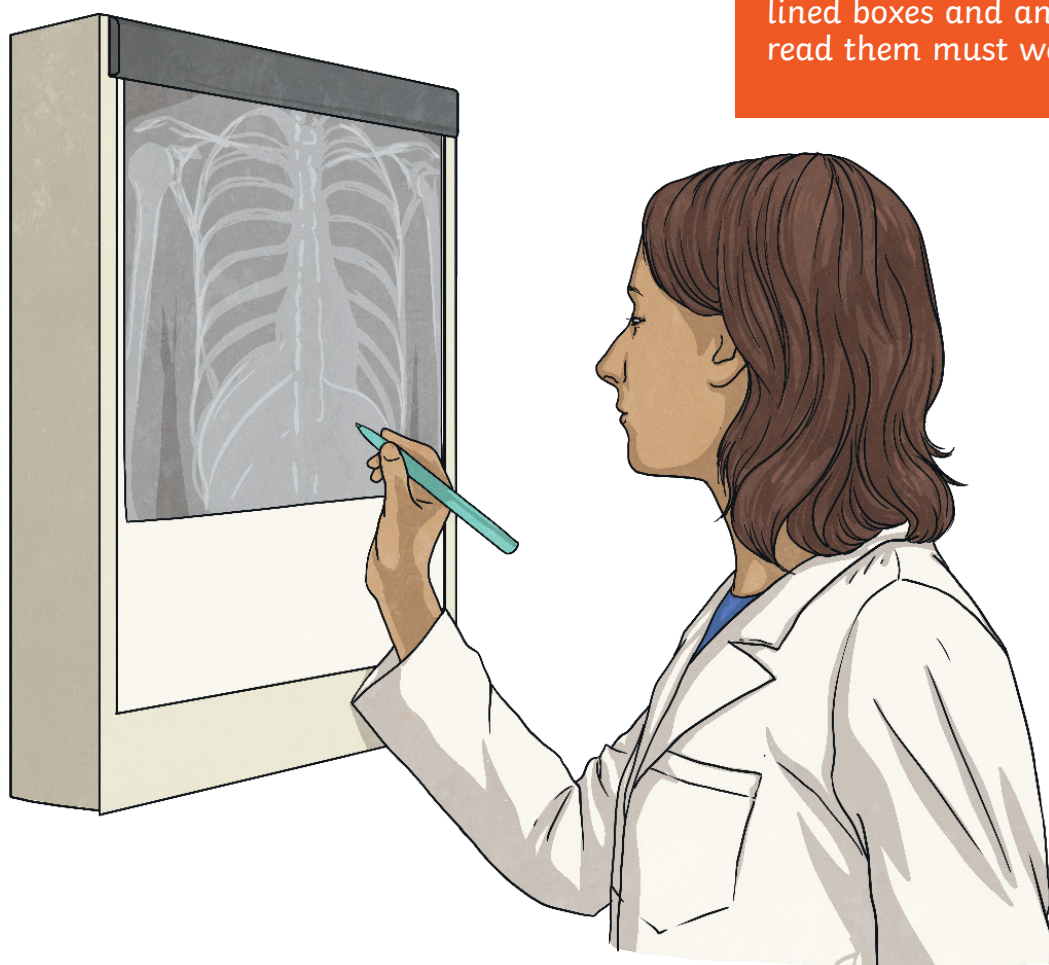
She worked together with her husband to discover two brand new radioactive elements - radium and polonium.

X-rays

Marie Curie founded the Radium Institute in Paris after her husband's death. Here, she investigated all forms of radiation and radioactivity, including x-rays. X-rays had been discovered in 1895 by Wilhelm Röntgen and Marie developed the use of x-rays for medical purposes. In 1914, World War One broke out and Marie created and transported over 200 x-ray machines to field hospitals. It is estimated that over 1 million injured soldiers were photographed by her x-ray machines. Albert Einstein said, 'She helped humanity greatly by her work'.

Did You Know?

Marie Curie's work books and papers are still so radioactive that it is dangerous to handle them. They are stored in lead lined boxes and anyone who wants to read them must wear a protective suit.



Influential STEM Individuals

j e m i s o n h i e e a
w n o p q e b c a v e d
i o r a r s a s n p m e
l l g n m r l c j d t r
l x a p v e r i o a a i
i j n e y n l n h l g n
a v r j u l i a n y e p
m h i p b b j u s t q o
s t m j a c k s o n c c
n f g t i r o o n r o o
e t h a n i o n w u h c
v a u g h a n s k l m k

Mae **Jemison**

Mary **Seacole**

Garrett **Morgan**

George Washington **Carver**

Katherine **Johnson**

Marie Maynard **Daly**

Mary **Jackson**

Dorothy **Vaughan**

Annie **Easley**

Percy Lavon **Julian**

Patricia **Bath**

Ernest Everett **Just**

Daniel Hale **Williams**

Elizabeth Nneka **Anionwu**

Maggie **Aderin-Pocock**

Alan **Emtage**

Malala Yousafzai

Malala was born on 12th July 1997 in Mingora, in Pakistan. She has two younger brothers. Malala's father was a teacher and she grew up with a strong belief in the power and importance of education.

In 2007, a group called the Taliban began to take control over the area where Malala and her family lived. They did not believe that girls should go to school and they also banned many cultural activities, such as watching television and dancing. Malala continued to believe in her right (and the right of every girl) to an education and became quite critical of the Taliban's actions.

Significant Action

In 2009, Malala began to write a blog for the BBC Urdu service. She wrote this using someone else's name (a pseudonym) and in it she described her desire to go to school and her fears living under Taliban rule.

Women were even being stopped from going out shopping. Even when Malala and her father received death threats for speaking out and sharing their fears with the world, they did not stop reporting what was happening in their local area and they became well known in Pakistan for their beliefs. Malala was awarded Pakistan's National Youth Peace Prize for her work in 2011.



Attack on Her Life

Whilst travelling home from school on a bus on 9th October 2012, when she was 15, Malala was shot in the head by a masked Taliban gunman. Two of her friends were also injured in the attack. Malala was flown to Birmingham in the UK for treatment; she stayed in hospital for three months. In March 2013, she was able to go to school in Birmingham. Later that year, she published a book, 'I am Malala', describing her experiences.

Securing Human Rights

The Taliban's attack on Malala led to wide-spread protests across Pakistan and worldwide shock. Over 2 million people signed a right to education petition, and the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Bill was passed in Pakistan. Now, every child in Pakistan is given the chance to go to school.

In 2013, the Malala Fund was set up. This organisation campaigns for all girls to have 12 years of education. Malala is still an active campaigner for the rights of girls around the world to have an education. Malala's tireless campaigning work was recognised in 2014 when she was named a Nobel Peace Prize winner. Malala donated the prize money of more than \$500,000 to build a secondary school for girls in Pakistan.

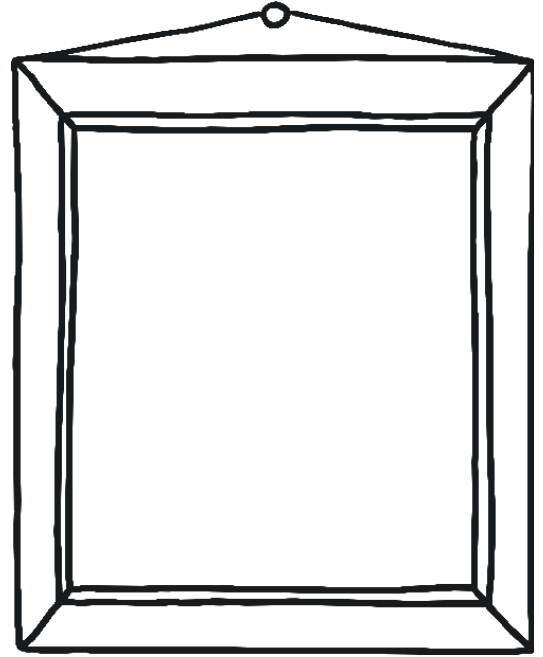
Inspirational Person Research

Researcher: _____

Person's Name: _____

Lived from: _____ to _____
year year

Most Known for:



Person's Portrait

Five Facts

1

2

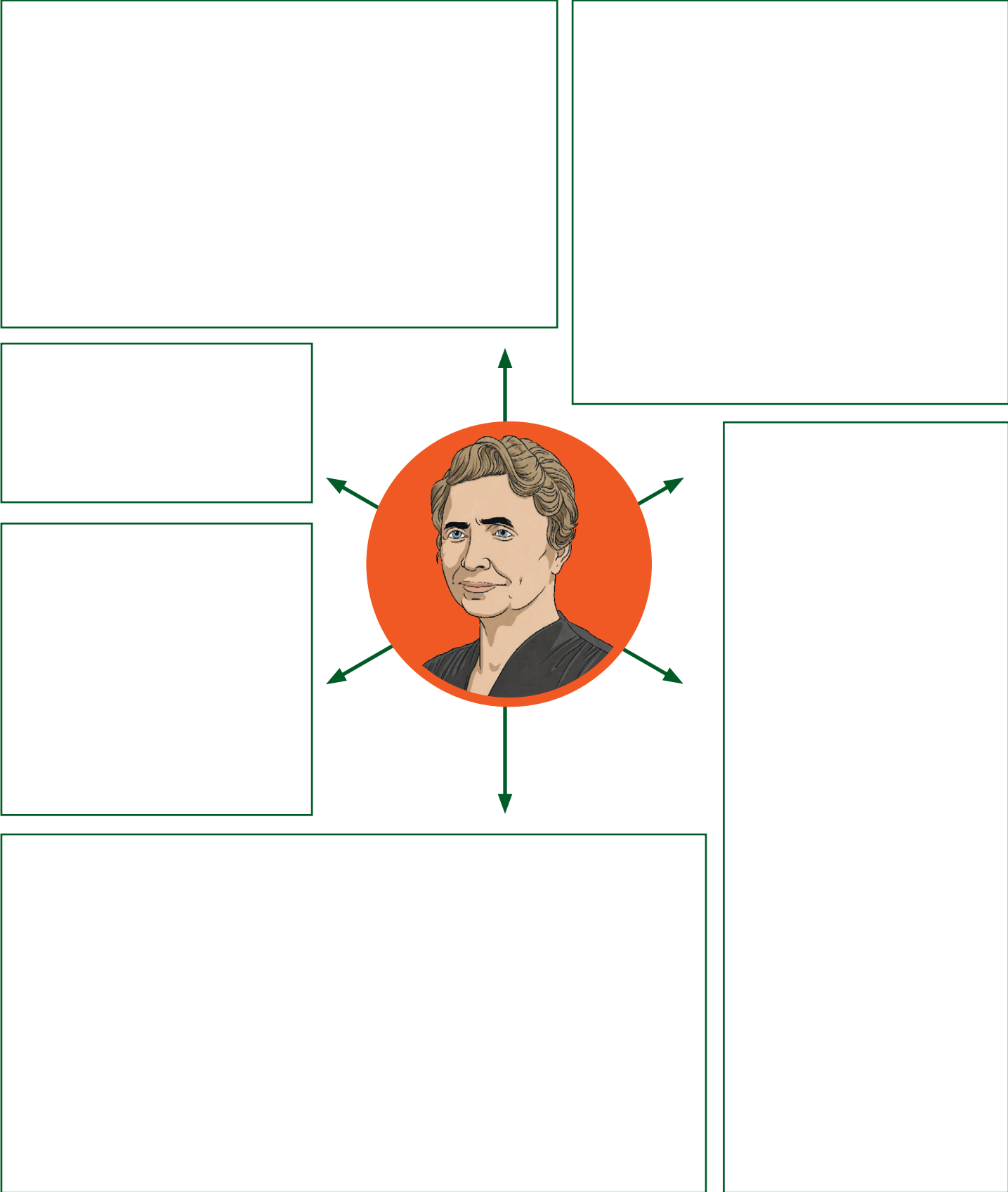
3

4

5

My Helen Keller Research Map

Fill in the map with facts or pictures from your research and make links between any that have a connection. You could include questions you might research another day.



Interview with an Activist

On 3rd January 2003, Greta Thunberg was born in Stockholm, Sweden. Greta tries to raise awareness about climate change around the world. She first became famous in 2018 when she went on strike, displaying a banner meaning 'school strike for climate'. She began striking every Friday, starting a movement known as 'Fridays for Future' which was joined by many other students around the world. Imagine you have the opportunity to interview Greta. What would you ask her and what do you think she would say in reply?



Question:

Answer:

Question:

Answer:

Question:

Answer:

60 Second Read Marcus Rashford

Rashford Gets Pride of Britain Award

Marcus Rashford, the gifted 22-year-old Manchester United footballer, has received a Pride of Britain Award. He got this award for his campaign to extend the free school meals (FSM) scheme over the summer.

Rashford's campaign hasn't stopped. He's set up a task force to help those in need. This is a group of food companies, supermarkets and charities who want to help end child food poverty.

He's asking the government to provide FSMs to children throughout all of the school holidays.

Some cafes and businesses are supporting his campaign. They're offering free meals to those who receive FSM.

Marcus Rashford thanked communities, posting on social media that: "The superstars of this nation lie in local communities."

Quick Questions

1. Find and copy a word in the introduction that shows the author thinks Marcus Rashford is a talented sportsman. _____

2. Find and copy three groups that are in Marcus Rashford's task force.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. Using the article, find evidence which shows that Marcus Rashford feels that members of the community deserve to be recognised for their efforts.

4. Summarise the story in 15 words or fewer.

Dr Martin Luther King

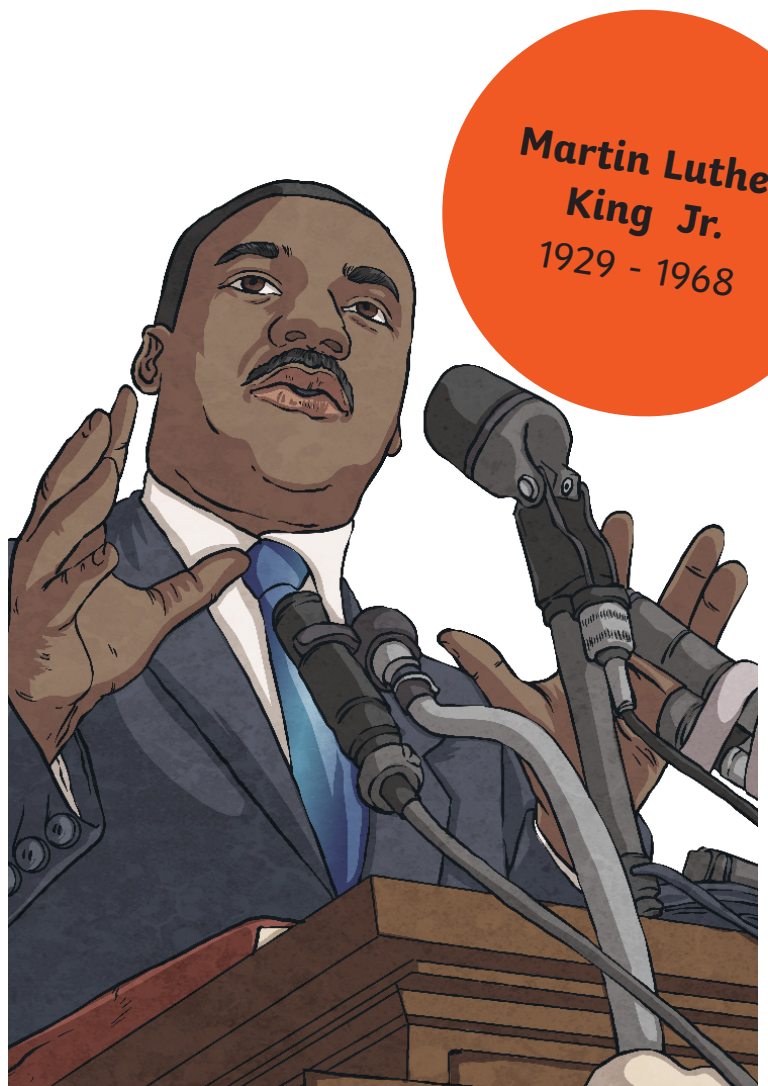
Martin Luther King was a civil rights activist in the 1950s and 1960s. He was passionate for equal rights of all people including African Americans and led many protests aimed at highlighting the division between white people and black people. His wish was for the world to be colour blind and civil rights not to be affected by race.

In 1963 Martin Luther King helped to organise the famous 'March on Washington' where over a quarter of a million people wanted to show the need for civil rights and equality amongst all races. They wanted to stop the segregation between white and black people in public places such as schools, buses, housing and employment. During this march, Martin Luther King gave a speech which turned out to be one of the most famous speeches, famous all over the world. In this 'I have a dream speech', he talked about wanting a world where his children wouldn't be judged by the colour of their skin.

In 1968, at the age of 39, whilst standing on his balcony, Martin Luther King was shot dead by James Earl Ray. His death brought outbreaks of racial violence and riots across the country. During his funeral, tens of thousands of people lined the streets to pay tribute to him. Before his death, Martin Luther King spoke of how he wanted to be remembered. "I'd like somebody to mention that day that Martin Luther King tried to give his life serving others".

'We can never be satisfied as long as our children are stripped of their selfhood and robbed of their dignity by signs stating "For Whites Only".'

During his work and protests for civil rights, Martin Luther King was arrested many times but he was also rewarded for his hard work by receiving a Nobel Peace Prize for combating racial inequality. He was the youngest man, at the age of 35, to win this prestigious award.



Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela was born in 1918 in South Africa. His real name was Rolihlahla, it was a teacher at school that gave him the name Nelson. Whilst Nelson Mandela was growing up, black people had very little say in how South Africa was run. Often whites and blacks fought over the land. Most black people were poor and worked as servants, on farms or in factories.

In 1944, Nelson Mandela joined the group called the African National Congress (ANC) who wanted black South Africans to have the same human rights as whites. However, the government, run by white people, made new laws to keep white and black people apart. This was called apartheid which Nelson Mandela fought tirelessly against. However, to speak out like this was dangerous and after already spending many years in prison for protests, Nelson Mandela was once again arrested for standing up for his views and was given a life sentence. He became the most famous prisoner in the world after millions of people all over the world supported his fight against apartheid.

In 1993, Nelson Mandela was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work on equal rights.

Nelson Mandela never gave up his hope of equality and after spending 27 years in prison, the new South African President freed him. He continued to speak out for equal civil rights and became the leader of the ANC. One of the many things he tried to change was allowing everyone, regardless of skin colour to be allowed to vote and in 1994, this was allowed. It was at these elections that Nelson Mandela became the first black South African president.

**Nelson
Mandela**
1918 - 2013



Answers

