



Marie Curie

PHYSICIST AND CHEMIST

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A Lifelong Scientist

In 1903 Marie Curie won a Nobel Prize in **Physics**. She was the first woman to do so. Eight years later she won the Nobel Prize in **Chemistry**. She's the only person to win this prize in two different sciences. These Nobel Prizes are just two of Marie's honors as a lifelong scientist.

physics—the study of matter and energy, including light, heat, electricity, and motion

chemistry—the scientific study of substances, what they are composed of, and the ways they react with each other



FACT Marie Curie was the first person to win the Nobel Prize twice.

Blooming Scientist

Maria “Manya” Skłodowska was born in Warsaw, Poland, on November 7, 1867. Both of her parents were teachers. At the time, Poland was part of the Russian Empire. Maria had four older brothers and sisters. Maria’s father taught her some science.

“I am among those who think that science has great beauty.”

Marie Curie

Marie (far left) with her
father and sisters, 1886



Maria graduated from high school when she was 15. Then she moved to Krakow, Poland, which was ruled by Austria. She **tutored** children. When she was 24, Maria moved to Paris, France. She wanted to study math and physics. She changed her name to Marie, the French spelling of Maria.

Studying in Secret

Maria went to a “Floating University” in Warsaw. It changed locations all the time because it was a secret from the Russians. It taught illegal classes such as Polish history.

tutor—to provide extra help for students outside of school



Marie at age 16