



07 November 1867 – 04 July 1934

Marie Curie was a woman of many firsts:

She was the **FIRST WOMAN** to win a Nobel Prize.

She is the **ONLY WOMAN** to win the Nobel Prize **TWICE**.

She is the **ONLY WOMAN** to win a Nobel Prize in **TWO** different sciences.

She was the **FIRST WOMAN** to become a professor at the University of Paris.

She was the **FIRST WOMAN** to be entombed on her own merits in the Panthéon in Paris.

Marie Curie was a physicist and chemist who conducted pioneering research on radioactivity.

Her achievements included the development of the theory of *radioactivity* (a term that she coined), techniques for isolating radioactive isotopes, and the discovery of two elements - polonium and radium. Under her direction, the world's first studies into the treatment of neoplasms were conducted using radioactive isotopes. She founded the Curie Institutes in Paris and in Warsaw, which remain major centres of medical research today. During World War I she developed mobile radiography units to provide X-ray services to field hospitals.

She was born in Warsaw and she studied at Warsaw's clandestine Flying University and began her practical scientific training there too. In 1891, aged 24, she followed her older sister Bronistawa to study in Paris, where she earned her degrees and conducted her subsequent scientific work. She shared the 1903 Nobel Prize in Physics with her husband Pierre Curie and physicist Henri Becquerel. She won the 1911 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Marie Curie died in 1934, aged 66, in France, of aplastic anaemia from exposure to radiation in the course of her scientific research and in the course of her radiological work at field hospitals during World War I.



***Nothing in life is to be
feared; it is only to be
understood.***

~ Marie Curie