Of course, I'd be happy to help! The discovery of atoms dates back to the ancient Greeks, but it wasn't until the 19th century that the concept was properly understood and accepted. Here's a brief summary:

* Ancient Greeks: The idea of tiny indivisible particles called "atoms" can be traced back to the ancient Greek philosophers Democritus (460-370 BCE) and Epicurus (341-270 BCE). They proposed that matter was composed of small, indestructible particles called atoms, which could not be created or destroyed, only rearranged.
* John Dalton (1803): English chemist and physicist John Dalton developed the modern atomic theory. He proposed that elements are made up of small, indivisible particles called atoms, and that compounds are formed when atoms of different elements combine in whole number ratios. This theory challenged the prevailing belief at the time that matter was continuous and could be divided into smaller parts without limit.
* J.J. Thomson (1897): British physicist J.J. Thomson discovered the electron, which is a subatomic particle with a negative charge. His experiments showed that cathode rays were composed of negatively charged electrons, which led to the acceptance of the atom as a basic unit of matter.
* Ernest Rutherford (1911): New Zealand-born physicist Ernest Rutherford conducted experiments on the structure of atoms using alpha particles. He discovered that the nucleus of an atom consists of two positively charged protons and neutral neutrons, surrounded by electrons in orbit around the nucleus. This model became known as the Rutherford model of the atom.
* Niels Bohr (1913): Danish physicist Niels Bohr further refined the Rutherford model by proposing that electrons occupy specific energy levels or shells around the nucleus. He also introduced the concept of quantum mechanics, which explains the behavior of subatomic particles like electrons and protons.

In summary, the discovery of atoms involved a gradual understanding of the nature of matter ov er several centuries, from the ideas of ancient Greek philosophers to the experiments and theori es of early 20th-century scientists like Dalton, Thomson, Rutherford, and Bohr.