

Grade 3
Reading Biography

Biography of Marie Curie: A Woman of Science

Marie Curie was a remarkable woman who changed the world of science forever. Born on November 7, 1867, in Warsaw, Poland, her real name was Maria Skłodowska. She was the youngest of five children in her family. Marie was always a bright student, with a deep love for learning. However, during her time, women were not allowed to attend universities in Poland.

Not giving up on her dreams, Marie worked as a governess and tutor to save money. Eventually, she moved to Paris, France, to study at the Sorbonne University. There, she changed her name to Marie and fully immersed herself in her studies. She excelled in physics and mathematics, and she was one of the top students in her class.

Marie's life took a romantic turn when she met Pierre Curie, a fellow scientist. They fell in love and got married in 1895. Together, they made an incredible team in the laboratory. Marie and Pierre discovered two new elements, polonium and radium, and conducted groundbreaking work on radioactivity—a term Marie herself coined.

Marie faced many challenges in her career, including the death of her beloved husband in 1906. However, she continued her scientific work and made incredible contributions to the field of physics and chemistry. She became the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and remains the only woman to have won Nobel Prizes in two different scientific fields—physics and chemistry.

Marie Curie's legacy lives on today. She inspired generations of scientists, especially women, to follow their passions and break barriers. Her dedication to science, her resilience in the face of adversity, and her groundbreaking discoveries make her a true hero in the world of science.

Multiple Choice Questions

What is Marie Curie's birth name?

- A) Marie Skłodowska
- B) Maria Skłodowska
- C) Marie Curie
- D) Maria Curie

In which country was Marie Curie born?

- A) France
- B) Poland
- C) Germany
- D) Belgium

Why did Marie move to Paris?

- A) To work as a governess
- B) To get married
- C) To study at a university
- D) To start her own laboratory

What did Marie change her name from?

- A) Marie Skłodowska
- B) Maria Skłodowska
- C) Marie Curie
- D) Maria Curie

Who did Marie Curie marry?

- A) A doctor
- B) A fellow scientist
- C) A teacher
- D) A politician

What did Marie and Pierre discover together?

- A) The law of gravity
- B) Two new elements
- C) The theory of relativity
- D) The cure for a disease

What did Marie Curie contribute to?

- A) Mathematics
- B) Literature
- C) Physics and chemistry
- D) Biology

What term did Marie Curie coin?

- A) Gravity
- B) Electricity
- C) Radioactivity
- D) Evolution

How many Nobel Prizes did Marie Curie win?

- A) One

B) Two

C) Three

D) None

What is Marie Curie known for?

A) Being a teacher

B) Being a writer

C) Being a scientist

D) Being a politician

Answers:

1. B) Maria Skłodowska. *The passage mentions that Marie Curie was born as Maria Skłodowska.*
2. B) Poland. *The passage states that Marie Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland.*
3. C) To study at a university. *Marie moved to Paris to attend the Sorbonne University.*
4. B) Maria Skłodowska. *The passage mentions that she changed her name from Maria to Marie when she moved to Paris.*
5. B) A fellow scientist. *The passage mentions that Marie Curie married Pierre Curie, who was also a scientist.*
6. B) Two new elements. *Marie and Pierre discovered two new elements, polonium, and radium.*
7. C) Physics and chemistry. *The passage states that Marie Curie made contributions to physics and chemistry.*
8. C) Radioactivity. *The passage mentions that Marie Curie coined the term radioactivity.*
9. B) Two. *Marie Curie won Nobel Prizes in two different scientific fields.*
10. C) Being a scientist. *The passage focuses on Marie Curie's contributions to science and her legacy as a scientist.*