Watch the short video and take notes of the following details:

1. Who discovered the “Oklo case” and when?
2. How did the scientists know that something was odd?
3. When and how long did the Oklo reactor operate?
4. What are the two isotopes of Uranium?
5. What function did the ground water have?
6. What was the power output of the reactor?
7. Why did the reactor stop?

Now make sure you know how to use the following words and phrases to describe what happened at Oklo and explain why today you can’t really take a lump of uranium straight from the mine, put in a bucket of water and have a nuclear reactor ready:

Fission

Fissionable vs fissile isotopes

Moderator

Stray neutron

Thermal speed

Split a nucleus

Initiate a chain reaction

Depleted uranium

Decay

Half-life