

Little People, BIG DREAMS

# Marie Curie



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Illustrated by Frau Isa

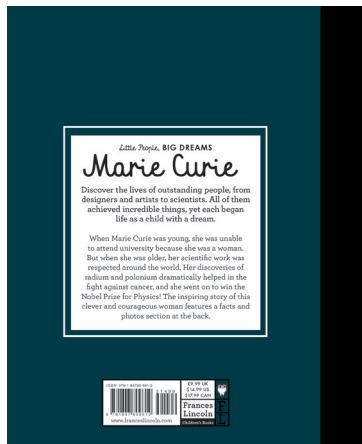
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Lots of the activities and discussion topics in these teacher's notes are deliberately left open to encourage pupils to develop independent thinking around the book. This will help pupils build confidence in their ability to problem solve as individuals and also as part of a group.



## The Front Cover

What do you think was special about Marie Curie?



## The Blurb

Is there anything that surprises you in the blurb?

What is the Nobel Prize?

Why do you think the blurb uses the adjective 'courageous' to describe Marie Curie?



## The Endpapers

What do you think the shapes represent on the endpapers?

Create your own design, when you have finished reading the book.



Looking at the illustration, what sort of things do you think Marie found interesting?

Why do you think Marie had no interest in becoming a princess?

If you were to make a vow to yourself, what would it be?



Do you think your family background influences what you do in life?

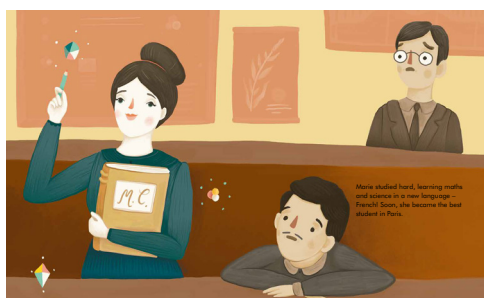
Talk and then write about something that you have which you think of as a 'treasure' and explain why it is so special.



How do you think Marie felt about leaving her home in Poland to go to France?

Make a collection of words to describe the different feelings that she might have had.

Discuss whether you think women and men should be treated differently, giving reasons for your opinions.



What challenges did Marie face when studying in France?



Discuss whether you think people need shared interests if they are to develop good relationships.



Why are they called Madame and Monsieur Curie?

What does this illustration suggest to you?

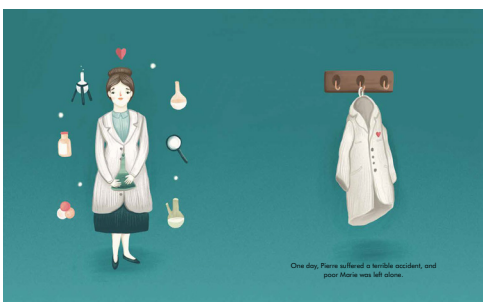


Find out what radium and polonium are.

Why do you think it 'was such a thrilling moment for science'?



What was particularly important about Marie Curie winning the Nobel Prize?



How has the illustrator conveyed what has happened?

How do you think Marie Curie felt?



How did Marie Curie deal with the grief of losing her husband?

How does the illustrator reflect this in the page design?

Find out which Nobel Prizes Marie Curie was awarded.

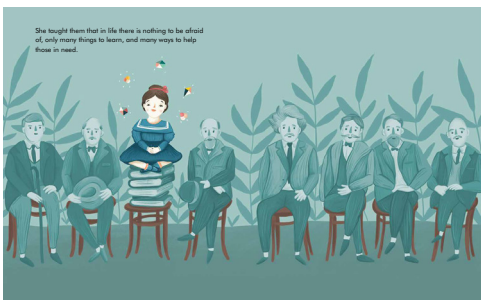
What do you notice about the audience?



How did Marie Curie's discovery help injured soldiers in World War I?



What impact did Marie Curie's determination and courage have on others?



Why do you think the illustrator chose to depict Marie Curie in this way in the illustration?

Rephrase Marie Curie's advice in your own words.

**MARIE CURIE**  
(born 1867 - died 1935)

**1867**  
 Marie Curie was born Maria Salomea Skłodowska in Warsaw, Poland. She is well-known for winning two Nobel Prizes - one for Physics, and one for Chemistry. She was the first female scientist to win a Nobel Prize, and the only female, who has won two in different subjects. She was a remarkable child, with an incredible love of learning. She continued the task of her mother at the age of ten, to become a brilliant student. Despite Maria's talent, she wasn't allowed to go to the same university as her brother, because she was a girl. She worked as a teacher, and a governess, before moving to Paris to study - there she became Marie. It was at this time that she

**1895**  
 met Pierre Curie. They later married, and together, made the great scientific discovery of polonium and radium, and in 1902, they won the Nobel Prize for Physics. After the sudden loss of Marie, who was killed in a road accident, Pierre then married Irène, who was also a second Nobel Prize - this time for Chemistry - for her work on the Radium Institute at the University of Paris, and demonstrated her use of it to help injured soldiers in the First World War. Marie believed in the benefit of science, and that people would use science for good, not evil. She used all of her skills to search for knowledge, and her discoveries continue to help people with illnesses today.

**1906**

**1920**

What extra facts have you found out on these pages?

Find Warsaw and Paris on a map or globe. How many countries do you think Marie Curie would have had to travel through to go from Warsaw to Paris?

Create a timeline for Marie Curie's life, showing the most important events and the dates of World War I.

You might find the video on this website interesting: [quartokno.ws/2TgxRUZ](http://quartokno.ws/2TgxRUZ)



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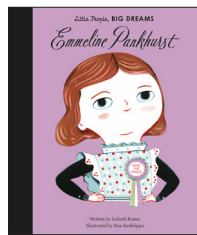
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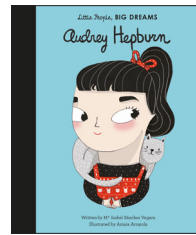
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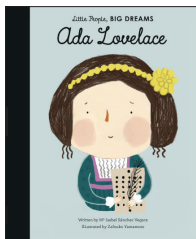
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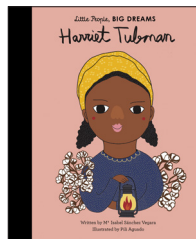
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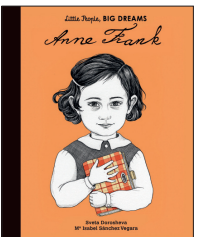
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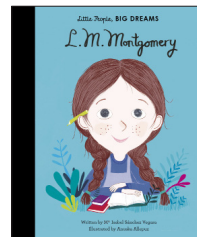
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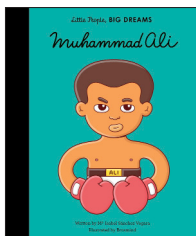
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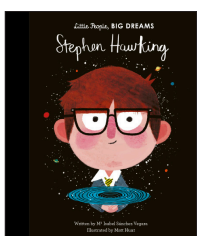
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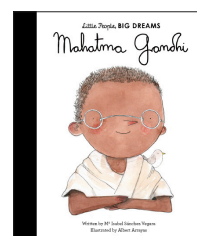
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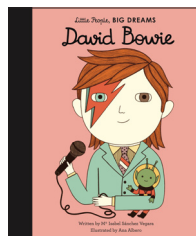
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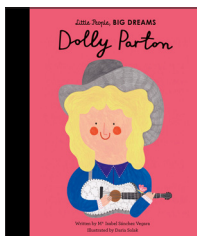
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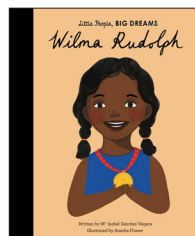
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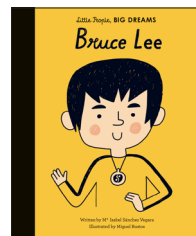
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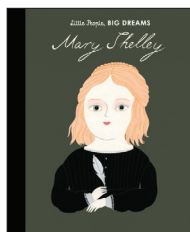
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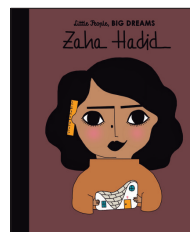
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