<u>Maria Sklodowska Curie</u>

Two-time Nobel Prize Recipient

Maria Sklodowska Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland in 1867. She loved studying physics and chemistry in school and dreamed about one day studying these subjects in Paris, France. Her dream came true. While in Paris, Maria Sklodowska married a French professor, Pierre Curie. Maria Sklodowska Curie and her husband discovered the elements of radium and polonium (named after Poland). They were awarded a Nobel Prize* for physics. Several years later, she earned another Nobel Prize for chemistry. She was the first woman to receive the Nobel Prize and the first person to be awarded two Nobel prizes! Maria Sklodowska Curie is remembered today as a great chemist and physicist. During her lifetime, she earned 125 degrees, medals and decorations from universities around the world! Her discovery proved to be one of the greatest benefits to society.

<u>Comprehension Questions</u>

1. For what accomplishments is Maria Skiodowska Curie remembered?_____

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2. What was Maria Sklodowska's dream? _____

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3. What do chemists and physicists do? (Look in an encyclopedia)? _____

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4. Maria Sklodowska Curie won two Nobel Prizes. Name other Polish Nobel Prize Recipients and their fields of study _____

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Alfred Nobel, the Swedish chemist and inventor of dynamite left over $9 million of his fortune in his will to found the Nobel Prize. A prize was to be awarded in each of five fields: Physics, Chemistry, Physiology (or medicine), literature and Peace. Later, Economics was added.