

MARIE CURIE



FACT FILE

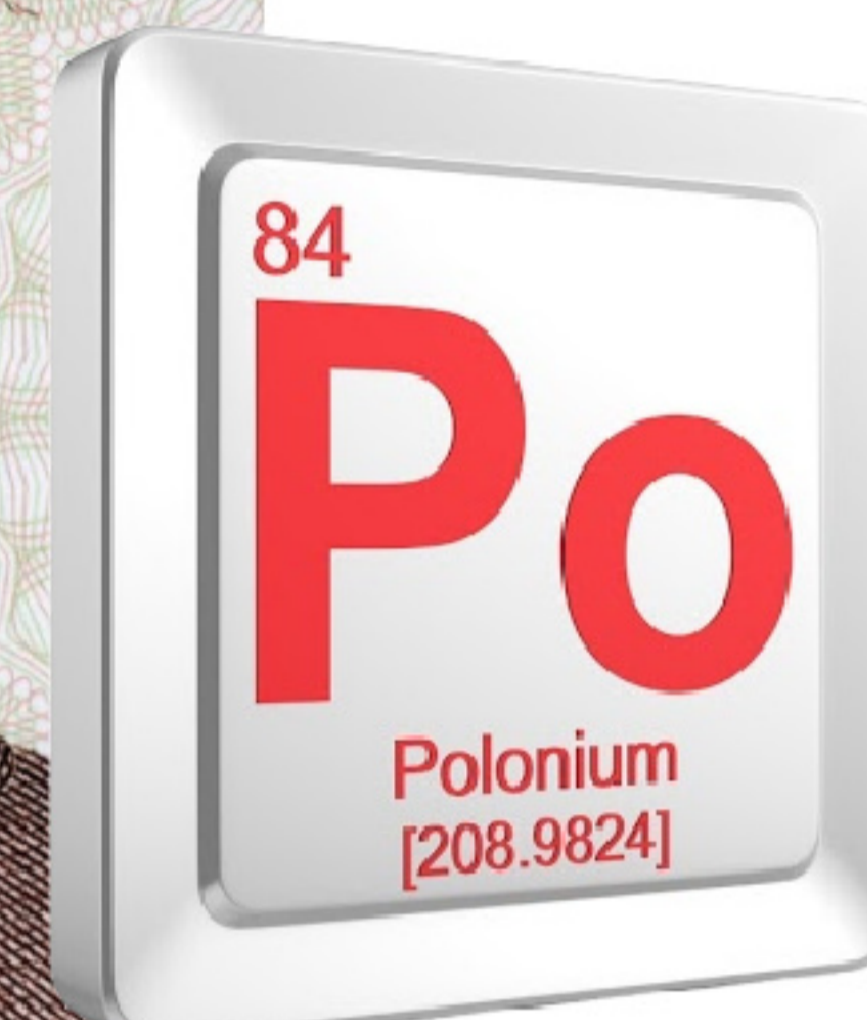
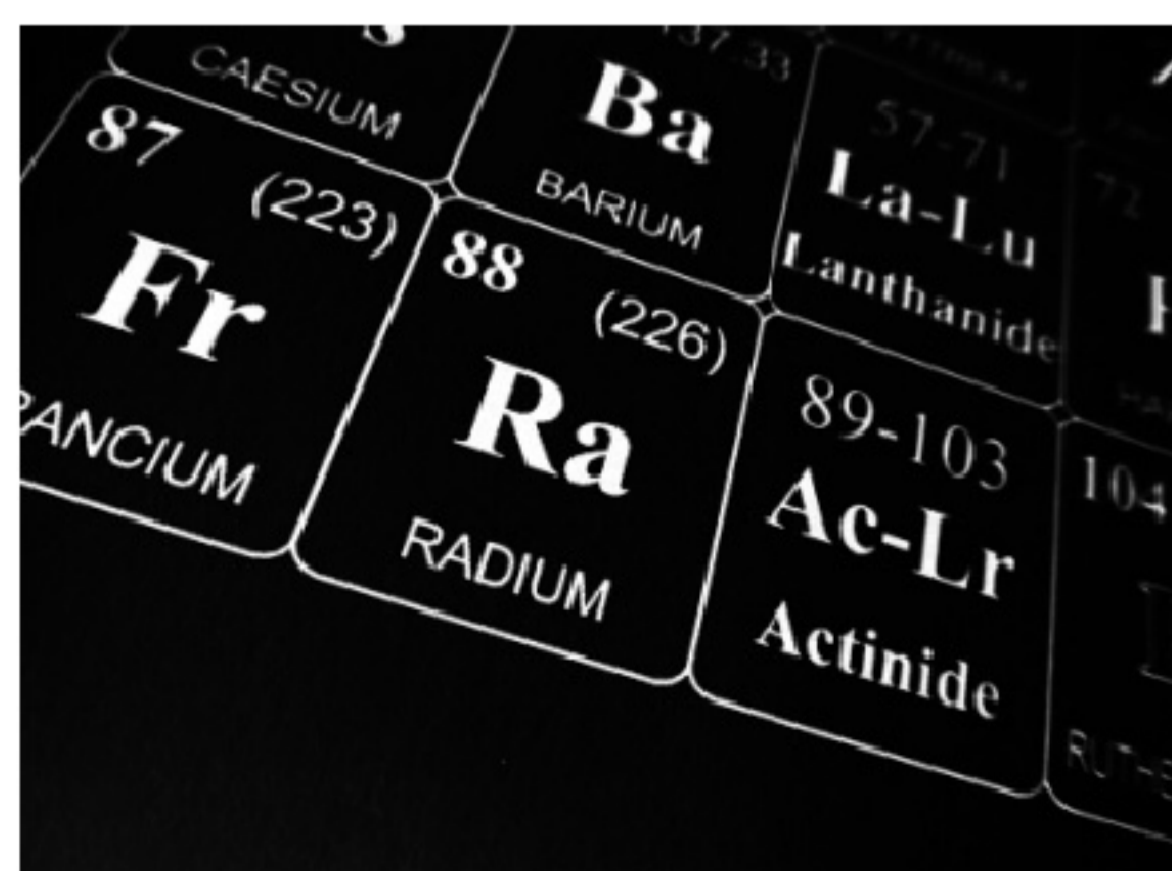
7th November 1867 - 4th July 1934

Marie Curie was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and the first person to win one in two fields (Chemistry and Physics). She discovered two new elements, polonium and radium and invented mobile x-ray units which took more than a million x-rays of soldiers in World War 1.

Marie Curie grew up in Warsaw, Poland and later moved to France to study at the Sorbonne in Paris. It was here where she met her husband Pierre Curie. They shared the 1903 Nobel Prize in Physics for the discovery of radium and polonium from pitchblende.

Marie's 1911 Nobel Prize was for producing radium as a pure metal and for her work on radioactive compounds which are now used widely in scientific research and medicine.

Marie faced many struggles on her journey to becoming a scientist. When she was growing up, Poland was under the control of Russia and people were not allowed to read or write anything in Polish. Her sister Zofia died from typhus when Marie was 10 and her mother died from tuberculosis two years later. In the 1800s Universities in Poland didn't allow women to attend. Marie worked to help fund her sister through University in France before starting her own studies.



ACTIVITY

Make models of elements

YOU'LL NEED:

Gummy sweet

Toothpicks or cocktail sticks

Marie Curie discovered two new elements! Polonium and radium are very rare. Other elements such as oxygen and carbon are much more common. Elements are made up of atoms. Atoms of some elements join up with atoms of other elements to make molecules.

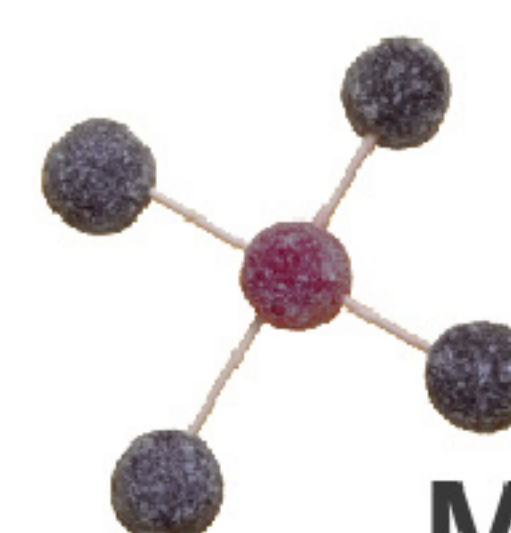
You can make edible models of molecules using sweets and toothpicks.

H₂O - Water - 2 Hydrogen atoms and 1

Oxygen atom

CO₂ - Carbon Dioxide - 1 Carbon atom and 2

Oxygen atoms



Methane CH₄

