

7<sup>th</sup> November – Marie Curie's birthday (1867)



**Marie Skłodowska Curie**

**Born**

7 November 1867

**Died**

4 July 1934



**Nobel Prizes**

Physics

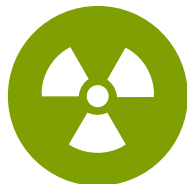
1903

Chemistry

1911

First woman to win a Nobel prize; first (and only) woman to win twice; only person to win twice in multiple sciences.

## Curie's discovery of radioactive elements



The term 'radioactivity', used to describe the atomic decay process that produces radiation, was coined by Marie Curie.



Curie noticed uranium ores were more radioactive than pure uranium. She suspected other, more radioactive elements were also present.



Her work led to the discovery of polonium (which she named after her native Poland) and Radium (from the Latin for 'ray').

Curie died from aplastic anaemia at the age of 66, likely due to long-term radiation exposure, the health risks of which were not known at the time of her research. As well as the elements she discovered, there is also an element in the periodic table named after her: Curium.