Marie Curie was an award-winning scientist who made many important discoveries. She was born in Poland.

**Take a Closer Look**

- What did Marie Curie win **Nobel Prizes** for? Circle them.
- To be **persistent** means you keep going even when it’s not easy. Underline an example of when Marie was persistent.

**Things weren’t always easy for Marie Curie. She didn’t let that stop her. Marie Curie worked hard and kept going.**

- What encouraging words could you say to yourself when something gets hard?

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Poland is a country in Europe.
Flying University
Marie Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland, in 1867. Marie was a top student in school. Back then in Poland, women were not allowed to go to university. Marie didn’t let that stop her. She joined a secret school called the “Flying University.”

New Discoveries
Marie wanted to learn more about physics and math. She went to Paris. Women were allowed to go to university there. She earned Masters’ degrees in physics and math.

After university, Marie did a lot of science experiments. She and her husband, Pierre, discovered something new. It was something she named “radium.” Radium would later be used to treat cancer.

Nobel Prizes
Marie and Pierre Curie won a Nobel Prize in Physics for their work. Sadly, Pierre died a few years later. This upset Marie greatly. She didn’t give up. She kept working on their experiments. Later, she won a second Nobel Prize in chemistry.

Marie Curie made huge scientific discoveries. Her work led to doctors being able to identify broken bones with X-rays and to treat cancer. Marie passed on her interest in science to her daughter, Irène. Years later, Irène also won a Nobel Prize in Chemistry.