

Process Paper

I picked this topic after hearing the theme. I had done a report on Marie Curie in elementary school, and based on what I could remember, I thought she was a good example of having a right and responsibility. I thought she fit the theme due to Her groundbreaking contributions to science and her perseverance in overcoming societal barriers as a woman in a male-dominated field. This relates to the theme of Rights & Responsibilities because Curie not only fought for her right to education and scientific inquiry but also took on the responsibility of advancing knowledge for the betterment of humanity. Her discoveries of polonium and radium led to innovations in medicine and science, demonstrating her commitment to using her knowledge to benefit others.

I conducted my research by gathering information from reliable sources, such as biographies, scientific journals, and historical archives, to understand Marie Curie's life, work, and impact. I focused on primary sources like her published papers and photos, as well as secondary sources like scholarly articles and books about her contributions. This approach allowed me to analyze her discoveries, the challenges she faced, and how her work influenced science, medicine, and society.

To create my website, I used the NHD website-building platform to design and organize the content into sections that highlight Marie Curie's life, discoveries, and impact. I included pages dedicated to her early life, the discovery of polonium and radium, and the short- and long-term effects of her work. I used a black background with bright green fonts because I thought they were reminiscent of Radium and radioactivity, Curie's field of study.

My historical argument is that Marie Curie's discoveries of polonium and radium not only revolutionized science and medicine but also demonstrated how the pursuit of knowledge can challenge societal norms and advance human progress. By asserting her right to education and scientific inquiry, Curie overcame significant barriers and fulfilled her responsibility to use her research for the betterment of humanity, leaving a lasting legacy that continues to inspire innovation and equality in science.

Marie Curie's work is significant in history because it revolutionized the scientific understanding of radioactivity, leading to advancements in medicine, such as cancer treatments and X-ray technology, and the development of nuclear physics and energy. Her achievements also broke gender barriers, as she was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and the only person to win Nobel Prizes in two different scientific fields, inspiring generations of women to pursue careers in science and challenging societal norms about women's roles. Her legacy continues to impact science, medicine, and gender equality today.