

Nobel Prize History

Focus Questions

1. Before watching the BTN story, discuss in pairs what you already know about the Nobel Prize.
2. What was Alfred Nobel's most famous invention?
3. Describe the story behind why Alfred Nobel started the Nobel Prize.
4. What are some of the categories that a Nobel Prize is awarded?
5. What did Marie Curie discover?
6. Name someone who has been awarded a Nobel Peace Prize.
7. The prizes are decided by a panel of people in
 - a. Norway
 - b. Sweden
 - c. Denmark
8. What do Nobel Prize recipients win?
9. Choose one of the Nobel Prize winners from 2019 and explain why they won.
10. What did you like about this story?

Activity

Before students watch the BTN story, ask them what they already know about the Nobel Prize.

Class Discussion

Discuss the BTN *Nobel Prize History* story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following and share their ideas as a class.

- Who was Alfred Nobel?
- What is the Nobel Prize?
- Why is it called the Nobel Prize?
- What is a Nobel Prize Laureate?
- Name some previous Nobel Prize Laureates.
- Who is the youngest person to have won a Nobel Prize?
- What are the different Nobel Prize categories? Name at least two.
- Think of three questions you would like to ask about the story.
- What would you ask the Nobel Prize winner if you had the opportunity?



Key Learning

Students will learn more about the history of the Nobel Prize and this year's winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Curriculum

HASS – Year 6

Develop appropriate questions to guide an inquiry about people, events, developments, places, systems and challenges.

Sequence information about people's lives, events, developments and phenomena using a variety of methods including timelines.

Civics and Citizenship – Year 7

Identify, gather and sort information and ideas from a range of sources.

Activity

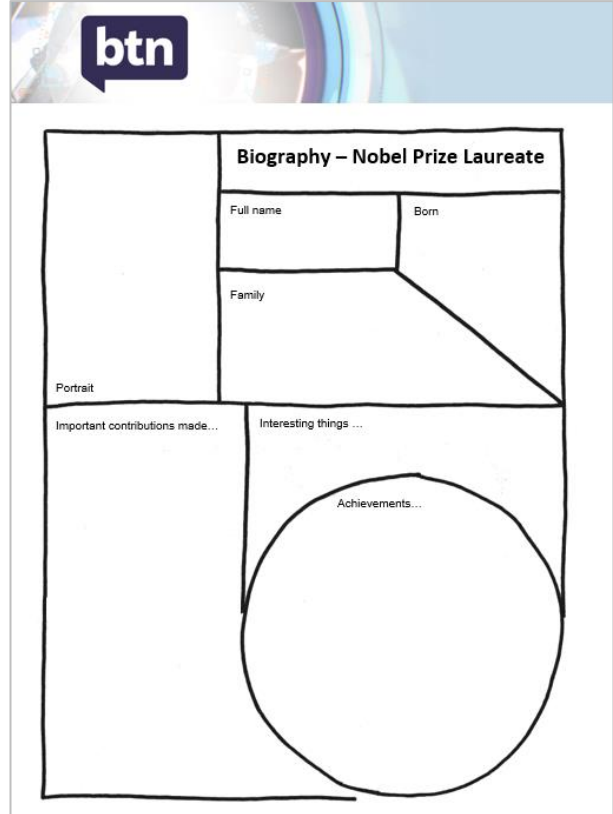
Nobel Prize Laureate – Create a biography

Students will choose a Nobel Prize Laureate and write a biography about them. See the list of Nobel Prize Laureates [here](#). Using the *Biography Organiser* template at the end of this activity, students will find and record information about the person they have chosen. Some possible areas of research include:

- Where and when were they born? Describe their family life growing up.
- What are some of their achievements? Choose one to explore in more detail.
- What inspired/motivated them?
- What were their challenges?
- How are their achievements recognised?
- How have they made an impact on people's lives?
- How did they change our understanding of the world?
- What do you admire about them?
- Imagine you could sit down and talk to them. What questions would you ask about their life and work?

Present your findings in an interesting way.

- Give a presentation on their achievements.
- Make a “Did you know?” for other students.
- Write a letter thanking them for their achievements and how they have changed the world.
- Create a timeline highlighting significant events.



The image shows a 'Biography Organiser' template for a Nobel Prize Laureate. It features a 'btn' logo in the top left corner. The main title is 'Biography – Nobel Prize Laureate'. The template is divided into several sections: 'Portrait' (a large empty box on the left), 'Full name' and 'Born' (two small boxes at the top right), 'Family' (a box below 'Full name'), 'Important contributions made...' (a box on the bottom left), 'Interesting things ...' (a box on the bottom right), and 'Achievements...' (a large circle on the bottom right).

Activity

Nobel Peace Prize 2019

Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has won the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize. Ask students to find out more about Abiy Ahmed and why he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize this year. The following questions can help guide students' research:

- Why was Abiy Ahmed awarded the Nobel Peace Prize?
- How did he respond when he found out he'd won the award?
- What do you think Abiy Ahmed meant when he said, “Peace is a very expensive commodity in my country”?



Activity

Nobel Prize Quiz

Complete this quiz as a class or individually to test students on what they have learnt about the Nobel Prize.

- Which country was Alfred Nobel from?
 - Norway
 - Sweden
 - Denmark
 - Finland
- What was Alfred Nobel's most famous invention?
 - Radiation
 - Penicillin
 - Dynamite
 - Lasers
- Alfred Nobel's fortune was used to set up an annual series of prizes.
 - True
 - False
- In which year was the first Nobel Prize awarded?
 - 1890
 - 1900
 - 1901
 - 1910
- Which category is included in the Nobel Prize?
 - Physics
 - Literature
 - Peace
 - All of the above
- Organisations can NOT be awarded a Nobel Prize.
 - True
 - False

Answers: 1b, 2c, 3a, 4c, 5d, 6b

Useful Websites

Nobel Prize – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/nobel-prize/10448598>

Peace Prize – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/peace-prize/10529668>

The Man Behind the Prize – Alfred Nobel

<https://www.nobelprize.org/alfred-nobel/>

ABC News – Ethiopian Prime Minister wins Nobel Peace Prize for ending 20-year war with Eritrea

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-10-11/nobel-peace-prize-ethiopian-pm-abiy-ahmed-wins-in-oslo/11593346>

Biography – Nobel Prize Laureate

Full name

Born

Family

Portrait

Important contributions made...

Interesting things...

Achievements...