

Sir Isaac Newton



When Sir Isaac Newton was a boy, he was more interested in making mechanical devices than in studying. He made a windmill which could grind wheat and corn, and he made a water clock and a sundial. His teachers thought of him as a weak student because he didn't do very well.

He wanted to go to college, but he didn't have the money to go. He enrolled at the lowest entry, which was the cheapest. In this position he had to serve the other students by doing chores for them. He even ate the leftovers of their meals, but he would do anything to get an opportunity to learn. Even when he was in college, he was not outstanding and received no awards.

When the university shut down because of the plague he went home and continued to study on his own. He had a notebook with 140 blank pages and he began to fill them with notes as he read and experimented about different things around him.

His childlike curiosity led him to make some very important discoveries when he became a man. Within a period of a year and half he made three great discoveries.

One day when he was drinking tea in the garden, he saw an apple fall to the ground. He started thinking about why it fell, and finally decided that the same force (called gravity) which caused the apple to fall also kept the moon in the sky around the earth. This same force called gravity, also kept the planets in the sky around the sun.



The apple incident led to his three basic laws of movement: An object in movement stays in motion unless an external force stops it; an object moves in a straight line unless some force makes it change direction; and for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.

Isaac Newton is well known as one of the greatest scientists who ever lived.

Now answer these questions in full sentences:

1. What did Isaac Newton like doing when he was younger?
2. What two things did Newton make as a child?
3. Why did the University Newton went to, close down?
4. Why did Newton enroll at the lowest entry at college?
5. What things did Newton have to do because he was enrolled at the lowest entry at college?

6. When the college closed, Newton went home and spent time writing in his notebook.
What did he write in his notebook?
7. Why do you think Newton made so many discoveries as an adult?
8. What did the falling apple help Newton discover?
9. How many basic laws of movement did Newton discover?
10. Explain one of Newton's laws in your own words.
11. **Find the meaning of all the underlined words in the dictionary.**