

Louis Pasteur and Marie Curie - French Pioneers in Science

From our readings we know that Louis Pasteur wasn't a very good student when he was young and, in contrast, Marie Curie was an excellent student at a very early age. In spite of this difference, both of them were very successful in their lives and both of them made a big contribution to our lives.

Discuss:

1. What do you think were their most important personal qualities? Curiosity? Perseverance? Honesty? Generosity? Compassion? Determination? Patience? Other?
2. How can we use the information about the school lives of Louis Pasteur and Marie Curie to help us become successful?

Marie was encouraged to study physical science by her cousin who was a director of the Museum of Industry in Poland. He let her do experiments in physics and chemistry at the museum.

Discuss:

1. What does encouragement mean?
2. From our study of the lives of Louis Pasteur and Marie Curie, how can our understanding of encouragement help us?

When Pierre and Marie Curie discovered radium, they had the chance to sell their discovery, but they didn't do so because it was their belief that the purpose of science was to serve mankind.

Discuss:

1. When a scientific discovery is made, whom do you think it belongs to? Why?
2. Do you think a scientific discovery has to be as big as those made by Pasteur and Curie to be important?
