







Marie and Pierre Curie Interactive Story Ideas!

Background scene:

Play this video in the background on a big screen, smart board, or laptop. Paris 1900 in color, Exposition Universelle [60fps, Remastered] w/sound design added (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vqlFMdiSH3k)



Storytelling Role-Play: 1-5 sand dollars each (2 Students to help cut out props and 6 students to role play)

Ask for 2 boy and 2 girl volunteers to depict Marie, Irene, Eugene, a woman learning how to operate the X-ray machine and a soldier speaking about the Petite Curies.

Let students listen for their part and act out what is happening in the story.



New word: 1-5 sand dollars

Imminent: When something seems imminent, it means it is unavoidable and is about to happen.

*Remind the students that they can earn a sand dollar if they tell you at the end of the story what the new word means. If they get it wrong remind them of the definition and have them try again in a few minutes.

Day 4: Marie and Pierre Curie

Sirens blare and war is **imminent** in Paris. Marie vows to keep the radium safe because she knows it can help the world. She gets on a train with a lead-lined box (Box prompt, carry it and get on the train) and goes to hide the radium in the city of Bourdeaux, 600 miles away.

Things are different now. In a tragic accident, Pierre has passed away in 1906, struck by a horse-drawn carriage as he crossed the road.

He didn't live to see Marie being awarded the second Nobel Prize—this time in Chemistry, making her the only person to win the award in two different fields of science. (Nobel Prize prompt, hold up both medals). Little Eve, their younger daughter, was only two years old when he passed. Irene, their elder daughter, was nine. Pierre's father, Eugene, comes to help take care of his grand-daughters.

Marie teaches Pierre's classes at the university. She is the first woman to be a professor there. Marie misses Pierre.



Questions/Reading discussion: 1-5 sand dollars (Students can earn a sand dollar for discussion participation)

Ask: Where did Marie hide the radium?

Example: Bourdeaux

Ask: How is it helpful for Eugene to live with Marie?

Example: He and Marie support each other through grief, and he helps take care of his grand daughters. It helps him feel better when he misses his

son, Pierre.

Day 4: Marie and Pierre Curie

It is 1914, and World War I is raging. Marie has taught herself all about the human body and offered her pure gold Nobel medals to be melted to help the war. She learns how to use an X-ray machine (X-ray prompt, hold it up to the light and examine it), and how to drive a car as well as fix it.

She convinces French businesses to donate cars that she puts X-ray equipment on. She drives them to the battlefield, where soldiers need them most. The X-ray machines can tell if there is a broken bone or something lodged in the wounded soldiers' bodies.

Irene, her daughter, helps treat soldiers in the army. (Nurse cap prompt, Irene treats soldier.) Marie teaches many other women to drive the cars too (Marie teaches a woman to drive and look at X-rays). Soldiers start calling the little X-ray cars 'Petite Curies' or 'Mini Curies'. They are grateful for her work. Her 20 Petite Curies and her bravery help save nearly a million soldiers' lives.

When the war ends, Marie brings the radium back and sets up an institute for the study of radium.

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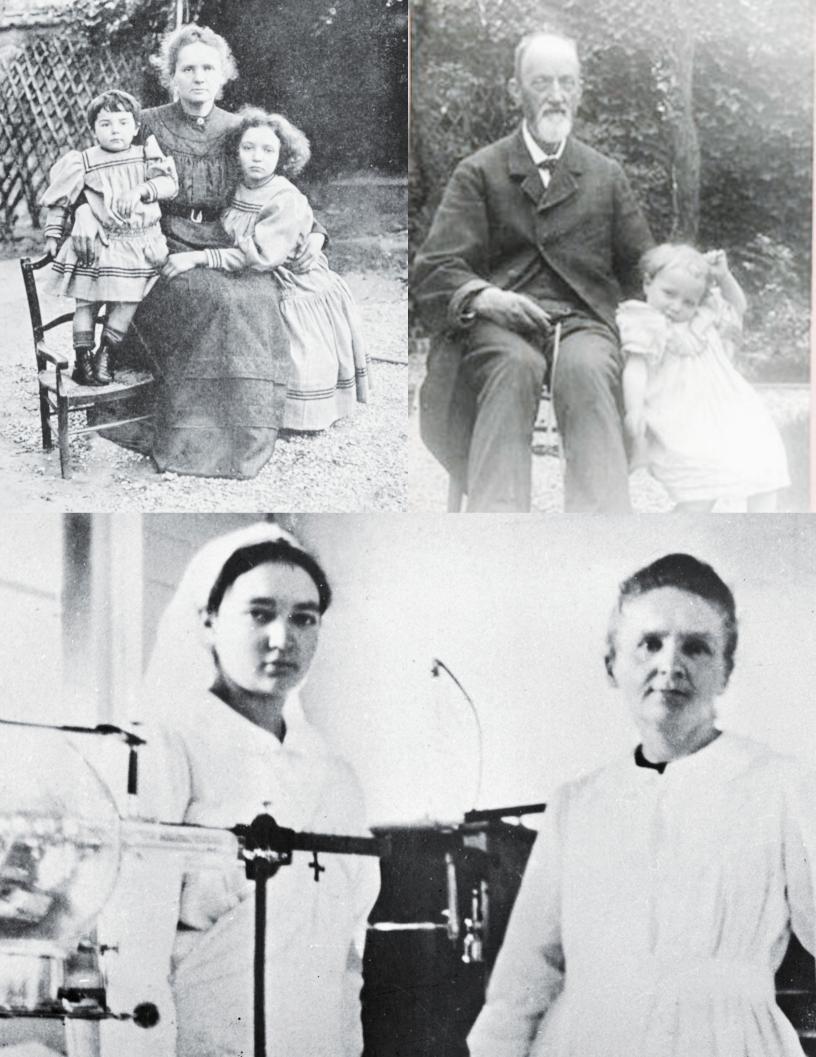
Ask: What are some things marie teaches herself to do?

Example: She learns how to read an X-ray, drive, fix cars and add X-ray

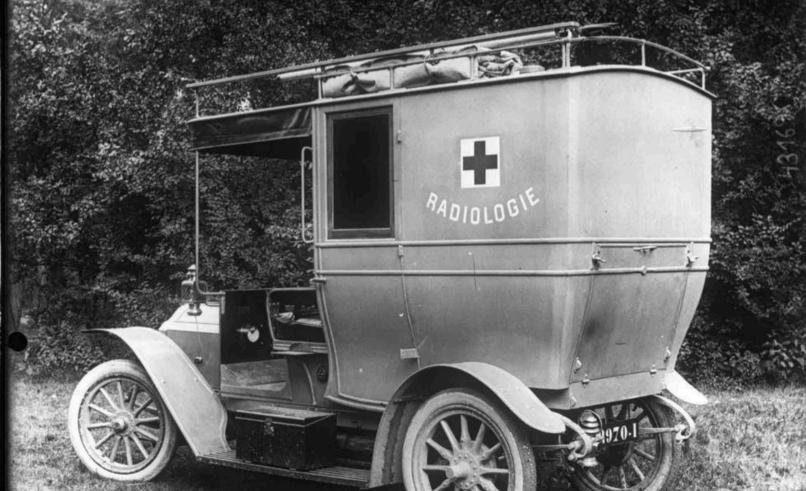
equipment to the cars.)

Ask: How are the Petite Curies helpful?

Example: They help doctors and soldiers on the battlefield and save lives.







Day 4: Marie and Pierre Curie story student props.

Marie: Hold this X-ray up to the light and study it. Pass it to Irene and say, "Please show the doctor!"

Marie: Wear both medals taped to your chest but take them off and offer to have them melted for the war.

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Marie: Carry this box with your precious vial inside like a secret agent carrying treasure. Make a train sound.



Day 4: Marie and Pierre Curie story student props.

Marie and Irene: Wear your nurse caps and run around the battlefield driving your Petite Curies and helping soldiers.

Marie: Teach your students about radium. Say: "Radium is a newly discovered element. It is very, very special."

Marie and Irene: Wear your nurse caps and run around the battlefield driving your Petite Curies and helping soldiers.