







DIGITAL STORY



www.nobel.mpg.de/en

EXHIBITION

During the anniversary year 2023, the Science Pavilion touring exhibition will be on display in several German cities.

Free admission

Anniversary year 2023

The Max Planck Society's Instagram channel is packed with (hi)stories: www.instagram.com/maxplanckgesellschaft #MaxPlanckHistory

Interactive social media events #MaxPlanckandMe

Current events

www.mpg.de/anniversary

Max-Planck-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Wissenschaften e.V.

Hofgartenstraße 8 80539 München www.mpg.de

Telephone: +49 89 2108 2010

+49 30 4990 5636

Email: jubilaeum@gv.mpg.de

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Pioneers of Science

THE NOBEL PRIZE LAUREATES OF THE MAX PLANCK SOCIETY

The Nobel Prize has been dubbed the Oscar of science. Awarded annually in Stockholm, it has been the most illustrious international science prize for more than a hundred years.

Among those honoured with the award have been 30 Max-Planck researchers. This places the Max Planck Society among the top three institutions worldwide with the highest number of Nobel Prize-winning researchers.

"Pioneers of Science" chronicles how research has changed people's everyday lives and shaped the modern world – including Albert Einstein's theory of relativity, Paul Crutzen's research of the ozone hole and Karl Ziegler's patent for the production of polyethylene in 1953. These and other discoveries that were honoured with the Nobel Prize between 1915 and 2022 also offer a representative snapshot of scientific advancements in the 20th and 21st centuries.

"Pioneers of Science" features an extensive Digital Story and the Science Pavilion touring exhibition.

RESEARCH SHAPES THE WORLD

Eight modules explore pioneering topics in science that changed the world between 1915 and the present day and which can help us shape the future.

The Science Pavilion also showcases a collection of selected exhibits, and you are warmly invited to engage in conversation with our Explainers team. The Digital Story provides more in-depth information in multimedia form to scroll through.

THE POWER OF KNOWLEDGE SCIENCE IN THE ANTHROPOCENE



Today, humans are changing the Earth System, something Paul Crutzen and Klaus Hasselmann warned about as early as the 1970s.

TECHNOLOGY FOR PROSPERITY CATALYSIS TRANSFORMING EVERYDAY LIFE



Artificial fertilizers, plastics, new medical drugs – catalysis is needed to produce any of these. Thus, this chemical process is the basis of our prosperity. On the downside, we are wasting food, energy and consumer goods at the expense of the environment.

NATURAL SUBSTANCES IN THE SPOTLIGHT BIOCHEMISTRY FOR HEALTH



Vitamins, hormones and other natural substances maintain the balance of the body. Yet it was not until the last hundred years that researchers have deciphered these substances as the basis for medicines and hormone preparations that are also used in transgender medicine today.

PROCESSES OF LIFE UNDERSTANDING AND MODIFYING CELLS



Cells are the smallest units of life. The processes taking place inside them can be explained in detail today, as can the interaction of countless cells in an organism. By means of the CRISPR/Cas9 technology, humans have recently even become able to change the blueprint of life stored in the cell nucleus – but should we be allowed to do so?

FASTER, SMALLER, MORE PRECISE TOOLS FOR INCREASING KNOWLEDGE



New knowledge often arises with the development of new devices. Their inventors need to think outside the box and be willing to challenge established norms, like Stefan Hell and Ernst Ruska – the pioneers of microscopy technology.

ANIMALS AND HUMANS IN WHAT WAY ARE WE RELATED?



Biologically speaking, humans are animals, and yet we are different. But what makes the human species so unique? Svante Pääbo, last year's Nobel Prize winner in Physiology or Medicine, is among those who have provided answers to this question.

MEASURING THE EARTH AND COSMOS

WHAT IS THE ACTUAL SCOPE OF THE THEORY OF RELATIVITY?



Owing to modern physics, the measuring of space starts in the 20th century. Albert Einstein's theory of relativity provides modern-day astronomers with a foundation for exploring cosmic phenomena such as the black hole in our galaxy.

SCIENCE IN THE SPOTLIGHT ALFRED NOBEL'S LEGACY



What is the truth of the anecdotes surrounding the legendary Nobel Prize? Who was Alfred Nobel, "the king of dynamite", and is it possible to dissolve a Nobel Prize medal in hydrochloric acid? Find the answers in our Digital Story.