

GENUISES WANTED...THE GREATEST CANADIAN CHEMIST RESUME PROJECT

(adapted from J. Peacock & A. Rowley)

Introduction:

Marie Curie. Robert Boyle. Linus Pauling. Isaac Newton. Albert Einstein. What do these individuals have in common? Yes, all of these individuals are famous Chemists.

However, upon examination of their lives, you'll most likely find these individuals to be more like yourself than you might have imagined.

Contrary to popular belief, Chemists are not wizards, superheroes, freaks, or geeks.

Rather, Chemists are normal people who dedicate their lives to discovery, curiosity, and creativity. There are no rules and regulations for becoming a Chemist. Anyone, male or female, young or old, rich or poor, can become a Chemist.

Your Task:

In this activity, you will go beyond your textbook to learn about the lives behind the science that we study daily. You will explore the life history of a particular **Canadian Chemist** and identify commonalities found within your own life.

Select a **Canadian Chemist** for study, and research the complete history of his/her life. A minimum of five resources is required. The following is a list of possible internet resources:

- Start with this one to find Canadians www.science.ca
- Chemical Achievers: The Human Face of the Chemical Sciences – <http://www.chemheritage.org/EducationalServices/chemach/home.html>
- Faces in Polymers – <http://www.chemheritage.org/EducationalServices/FACES/poly/home.htm>
- Faces in the Environment – <http://www.chemheritage.org/EducationalServices/FACES/env/env.htm>
- Pharmaceutical Achievers – <http://www.chemheritage.org/EducationalServices/pharm/pa/home.htm>
- Historical Entries – <http://cse.edc.org/products/historyscience/bios.asp>

1. Upon completion of your research, construct a **resume** for your Canadian chemist. The following information should be included:

- Full Name
- Date and Place of Birth
- Family (spouse, children, etc.)
- Education/Training (schools attended, degrees earned, memberships in honour societies, etc.)
- Experience/Employment History (a list of important job titles and descriptions)
- Scientific Discoveries
- Awards/Honours
- Hobbies or Personal Interests
- Disabilities/Illnesses
- Date, Place, and Cause of Death (This may not be applicable)
- Impact on society and/or the environment
- Impact on the study of chemistry

NOTE: Additional information regarding your chemist may be added at your discretion.

Use the knowledge you gained during your careers or co-op lessons to build a resume for this person. While in a "real" resume, you would not talk about some of the things on the list above, please include them in this resume. As well, a resume is normally tailored to the job for which you are applying. If you wish, you may have this Canadian Chemist applying for the title of "Canada's Greatest Chemist".

2. In addition to the Chemist resume, you must prepare a **one-page reflection** paper. The paper should detail the commonalities, or differences, found within the lives of you and your chemist, as well as your general thoughts and views of Chemists, their lives, and their discoveries.

Evaluation:

Your project will be graded based on the following rubric.

Rubric For The Greatest Canadian Chemist

Category	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Knowledge (30) Knowledge of facts and terms Shows understanding of the Chemist Understands concepts presented (ie scientific discoveries, awards)	Unable to complete task due to insufficient knowledge Shows limited understanding Repeats and/or copies others' words	Some use of required knowledge Shows some understanding Uses some of his/her own words	Considerable use of required knowledge Shows considerable understanding Uses own words in explanations	Thorough use of required knowledge Shows thorough understanding Extends explanations
Thinking/invest (35) Gathering data Analyzing and interpreting Forming and justifying conclusions based on evidence	Limited completion of resume Provides limited analysis of the data in reflection Demonstrates limited ability to draw conclusions based on the evidence	Some completion of resume Provides some analysis of the data in reflection Demonstrates some ability to draw conclusions based on the evidence	Considerable completion of resume Provides sufficient analysis of the data in reflection draws valid conclusions based on the evidence	All points are included in resume Provides rich analysis of the data in reflection Draws insightful conclusions based on the evidence
Application (20) Assesses the impact of the Chemist on society and/or the environment Assess the impact of the study of chemistry Assesses the "fit" between student and chosen Chemist	Assesses the impact with limited effectiveness Assesses the impact with limited effectiveness Assesses the "fit" with limited effectiveness	Assesses the impact with some effectiveness Assesses the impact with some effectiveness Assesses the "fit" with some effectiveness	Assesses the impact with considerable effectiveness Assesses the impact with considerable effectiveness Assesses the "fit" with considerable effectiveness	Assesses the impact with a high degree of effectiveness Assesses the impact with a high degree of effectiveness Assesses the "fit" with a high degree of effectiveness
Communication(15) Ideas are organized Communicates opinion in reflection piece Use of proper format for resume	Organization is limited Opinion is limited and is not that of the student Little understanding of resume format	There is some organization of ideas Opinion may or may not be owned by student There is some attempt at resume format	Ideas are organized with considerable effectiveness Opinion is owned by student Resume format has been used with considerable effectiveness	Ideas are organized with a high degree of effectiveness Opinion is strongly communicated Resume format has been used with creativity and originality