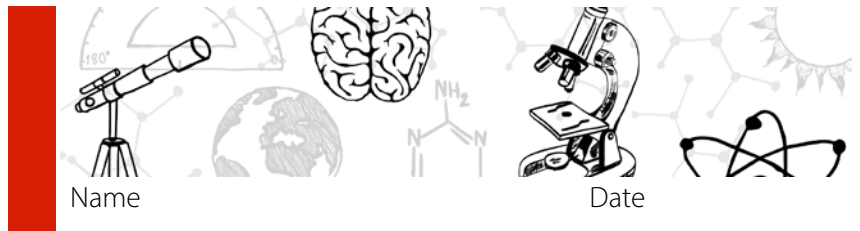


Barbara McClintock

Reading Passage



Barbara McClintock was born in 1902. Her family was poor.

She lived with her aunt and uncle when she was three. She went back to her parents when she was six.

Barbara was not like the other girls she knew. She liked to read and climb trees. Kids made fun of her. Her mom worried that she did not fit in.

Barbara worked in an office. She needed money to help her family. She wanted to go to college.

Cornell University was free. Barbara decided to go.



Barbara studied plants. She liked **genetics**. Genetics explains how **traits** are passed down from parents to children. This happens in plants and animals.

Barbara studied corn plants. She discovered something amazing. She learned that **genes** can jump. Genes are tiny parts in our body that control parts of who we are. When they move, genes can change how a plant or animal looks or acts. This helps plants and animals change over time.

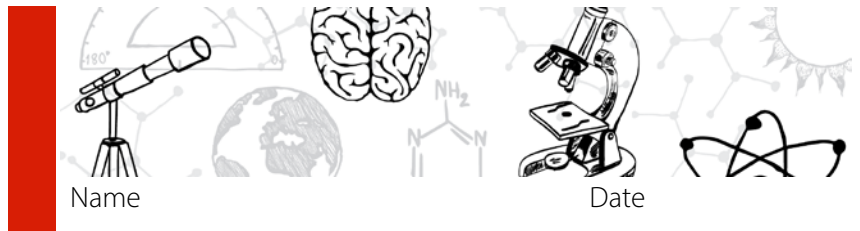


People did not believe Barbara. They did not think genes could jump. It took 20 years for people to change their minds. Years later, she won a Nobel Prize.

Dr. Barbara McClintock was an important scientist.

Barbara McClintock

Reading Passage



Barbara McClintock was born in Hartford, Connecticut in 1902. Her family did not have a lot of money.

Her parents sent her to live with her aunt and uncle when she was three. She went back to her parents when she was six.

Barbara was not like the other girls she knew. She liked to read, play baseball, climb trees, and do science. Kids made fun of her. Her mother worried that she did not fit in.

After high school, Barbara worked in an office. She needed money to help her family. But she dreamed of going to college.

Barbara learned that she could go to Cornell University for free. She convinced her father it was a good idea.



In college, Barbara studied plants. She was interested in **genetics**. Genetics is the study of how **traits** are passed on from parents to their offspring in plants and animals.

Barbara studied corn. She wanted to know why **maize**, or Indian Corn, had different colored kernels. She discovered something amazing. She learned that **genes** – the tiny parts in our body that control parts of who we are – can jump! When they move, they can change how a plant or animal looks or acts. This helps **species** change over time.

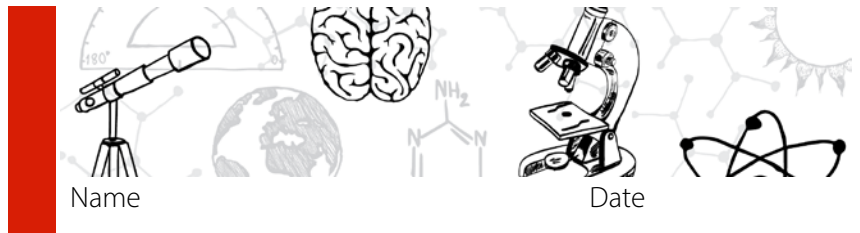


People did not believe her research. They did not think genes could jump. They did not think a woman could discover something so important.

It took 20 years for people to change their minds. Years later, Dr. Barbara McClintock won a Nobel Prize for her discovery.

Barbara McClintock

Reading Passage



Barbara McClintock was born in Hartford, Connecticut in 1902. Her family did not have a lot of money.

Her parents sent her to live with her aunt and uncle when she was three. She went back to her parents when she was six.

Barbara was not like the other girls she knew. She liked to read, play baseball, climb trees, and do science. Kids made fun of her. She thought the teasing was worth it, but her mother worried.

After high school, Barbara worked in an office. She needed money to help her family. But she dreamed of going to college. She learned that she could go to Cornell University for free. She convinced her father it was a good idea.



In college, Barbara studied the **genetics** of plants. Genetics is the study of how **traits** are passed on from parents to their offspring.

Barbara wanted to know why **maize**, or Indian Corn, had different colored kernels. She discovered something amazing. She learned that **genes** – the tiny parts in our body that control parts of who we are – can jump! When they move, they change how a plant or animal looks or acts. This helps a **species** change or **evolve** over time.

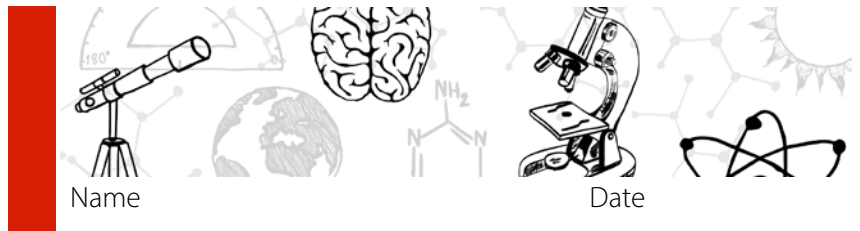
At first, people did not believe her research. Scientists thought that genes stayed in a special order, like beads on a string. They did not think a woman could discover something so important.

It took 20 years for people to change their minds. Years later, Dr. Barbara McClintock won a Nobel Prize for her discovery.



Barbara McClintock

Reading Passage



Barbara McClintock was born in Hartford, Connecticut in 1902. Though her father was a doctor, her family did not have a lot of money. Her parents sent her to live with her aunt and uncle from the ages of three to six.

Barbara was not like the other girls she knew. She liked to read, play baseball, climb trees, and do science. Kids made fun of her because she was different, but Barbara thought it was worth it. Still, her mother worried that she was strange. She wanted Barbara to have a husband and a family someday and not always be alone.

Barbara was not worried about having a family of her own. After high school, she worked in an office to earn money to support her parents. But she dreamed of going to college, despite the fact that few women attended college in those days. In her mind, money was the only barrier. When she learned that she could go to Cornell University for free, she immediately convinced her father it was a good idea.

In college, Barbara studied the **genetics** of plants. Genetics is the study of how **traits** are passed on from parents to their offspring in plants and animals.

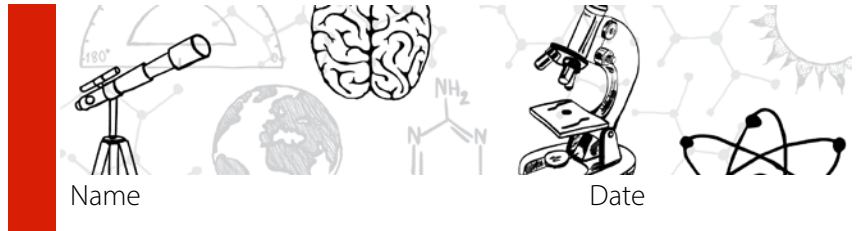
Barbara focused her studies on corn. She wanted to know why **maize**, or Indian Corn, had different colored kernels. She discovered something amazing. She learned that **genes** – the tiny parts in our body that control parts of who we are – can jump! When they move, they can change how a plant or animal looks or acts. These **mutations** help **species** change or **evolve** over time.

At the time, people did not believe McClintock's research. Scientists thought that genes stayed in a special order, like beads on a string. They did not think a woman could discover something so important. It took 20 years for people to change their minds. Then another 20 years later, Dr. McClintock finally won a Nobel Prize for her discovery.



Barbara McClintock

Reading Passage



Barbara McClintock was born in Hartford, Connecticut in 1902. Her father, Thomas, was a physician. Her mother Sara was known as an independent thinker. Despite her father's profession, Barbara's family did not have a lot of money. Her parents sent her to live with her aunt and uncle from the ages of three to six.

Barbara was not like the other girls she knew. She liked to read, play baseball, climb trees, and do science. Kids made fun of her because she was different, but Barbara thought the teasing was worth it. Still, her mother worried that she was strange. She wanted Barbara to have a husband and a family someday rather than always being alone.

Barbara was not worried about having a family of her own. After graduating high school at age sixteen, she worked in an office to earn money. She dreamed of going to college, despite the fact that few women attended college in those days. In her mind, money was the only barrier. When she learned that she could go to Cornell University for free, she immediately convinced her father it was a good idea.



In college, Barbara discovered her love of **genetics** while studying plants. Genetics is the study of how **traits** are passed on from parents to their offspring in both plants and animals.

Barbara focused her studies on corn. She wanted to know why **maize** had different colored kernels. After years of research, she discovered that **genes** – the tiny parts in our body that control parts of who we are – can jump! When they move, they can change how a plant or animal looks or acts. These **mutations** help **species** change or **evolve** over time.

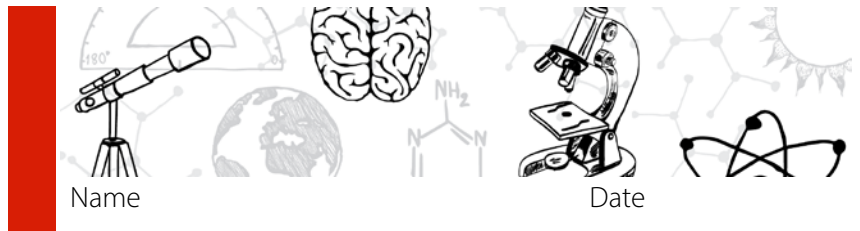
At the time, people did not believe McClintock's research. Scientists thought that genes stayed in a special order, like beads on a string. They did not think a woman could discover something so revolutionary.



It took twenty years for people to change their minds, and another twenty for her to gain recognition, but in 1983 Dr. Barbara McClintock finally won a Nobel Prize for her discovery. Today, her findings form the basis of **genetic engineering**.

Barbara McClintock

Reading Passage



Barbara McClintock was born in Hartford, Connecticut in 1902. Her father, Thomas, was a physician. Her mother Sara was known as an independent thinker. Despite her father's profession, the McClintock family struggled to make ends meet. Her parents sent Barbara to live with her aunt and uncle from the ages of three to six.

Barbara was not like the other girls she knew. She liked to read, play baseball, climb trees, and do science. Kids made fun of her because she was different, but Barbara thought the teasing was worth it. She once stated, "I would take the consequences for the sake of an activity I knew would give me great pleasure."

Despite her freethinking, Sara worried about her daughter. She wanted Barbara to have a husband and a family someday. Barbara, however, was not worried about having a family of her own. After graduating high school at age sixteen, she worked in an office and dreamed of going to college. Despite the fact that few women attended college in those days, in Barbara's mind, tuition was the only barrier. When she learned that she could attend the Cornell University College of Agriculture for free, she immediately convinced her father to let her attend.



In college, Barbara finally was surrounded by like-minded peers, and she enjoyed both her social and academic life. During her junior year she discovered her love of **genetics**. Genetics is the study of how **traits** are passed on from parents to their offspring in both plants and animals.

Barbara focused her research on corn. Early in her career, she produced the first genetic map of the **maize** plant. Later, she focused her studies on why maize had different colored kernels. After years of research, she discovered that some **genes** – the tiny parts in our body that control parts of who we are – can jump! When they move, they can change an organism's traits. These **mutations** help **species** change or **evolve** over time.



At the time, people did not believe McClintock's research. Scientists thought that genes stayed in a special order, like beads on a string, and did not think a woman could discover something so revolutionary. It took twenty years for people to change their minds, and another twenty for her to gain recognition, but in 1983 Dr. McClintock finally won a Nobel Prize for her discovery of **transposons** or "mobile genetic elements." Today, her findings form the basis of **genetic engineering**.