



What's going on this week?

This year's Nobel Prize winners have been announced and include two American scientists, who discovered how we feel physical pain and pleasure, winning the 2021 Nobel Prize for medicine. The annual awards take place in Sweden and there are six subject areas: Physics, Chemistry, Medicine, Literature, Peace and Economics. Each Nobel award comes with a gold medal and a prize of 10 million Swedish krona (£840,000).

Main question:

Is it important for all our achievements and good deeds to be recognised?

Listen, think, share

- Look at this week's poster. Talk about what we can see. Explain that it was taken at a recent awards event. Does anyone know what the awards were? Explain that it was the Nobel Prize awards. Have you heard of these before?
- Explain that the Nobel Prize Foundation gives six awards each year for very special achievements. This could be for making a scientific discovery, trying to restore peace or for medical research.
- Watch this week's useful video, which explains the Nobel Prize awards in more detail.
- Read the information found on the assembly resource about the Nobel Prize awards. Talk about why you think they are regarded by many to be the most important awards in the world. Do you agree they are?
- Can you think of an achievement, this could be a race you took part in, or a project you completed? Were there prizes? Talk about our own experiences of winning or receiving a prize. What about missing out on a prize? How did that feel?
- Can you think of times when you achieved something or did something kind or to help others and it wasn't acknowledged? How did you feel? Do you think that it's always important to receive thanks and praise for our positive actions and achievements?

Reflection

Winning prizes and receiving praise for our achievements can feel fantastic, though it's important to remember the core reasons behind our actions and to know that there will be times our good deeds go unnoticed – this shouldn't deter us from doing great things!



KS1 Focus

Question:

Why do people get prizes and awards?

Listen, think, share

- Think about some of the prizes or awards we have at school e.g. house points, stickers, certificates, extra playtime or even a prize box! Create a list. Discuss what you have to do to earn these prizes or awards.
- Can you think of any other times people might have been given a prize or an award? What did it look like? Why were they given it?
- Look at resource 1, which shares some examples of prizes or awards people might receive. Discuss why each person received their award e.g. for taking part, for passing an exam, for winning, for doing something good.
- If you could receive one of the prizes/awards on resource 1, which would you prefer? Why? Does everyone want to receive the same award or prize?
- Have you ever been given a prize or an award? Why was it given to you? How did it make you feel?
- A prize or award often recognises something positive we have done. Do you think it is possible for everyone to earn an award or prize? Can you think of a time when you or someone else might have deserved an award or prize and didn't get one?
- Do you think that having awards and prizes is a good idea?

Reflection

There are many different reasons why we might receive an award or prize. Prizes and awards can help to recognise something good we have done.



KS2 Focus

Question:

How do people win a Nobel Prize?

Listen, think, share

- Write the six Nobel Prize subject areas on the board: Physics, Chemistry, Medicine, Literature, Peace, Economic sciences. Do you know what each subject area is? Which do you think are sciences? What do you think literature is?
- Explain that a Nobel Prize honours people anywhere in the world for their outstanding work in one of these subject areas. What do you think 'outstanding work' means?
- Look at resource 2, which shares some information about Nobel Prizes. What do you think about the Nobel Prizes? Do you think they are a good way to reward people who benefit humankind?
- Discuss the process involved in finding the laureates. They must be nominated, shared with a committee and then voted for. Do you think this is a good process? How is this process similar to or different from the way other awards or prizes are won e.g. a football trophy, a piano certificate, star of the week?
- Think about what it might take to win a Nobel Prize e.g. having a talent in a certain area, making a discovery that helps people. What personality traits do you think these people have? E.g. resilience, hardworking, courageous.

Reflection

A Nobel Prize is a prestigious award, which means it is respected, admired and important. They are designed to reward people from anywhere in the world whose work has had the greatest benefit to humankind.

KS2 Follow-up Ideas

Option 1: Share the following names with the children:

- Marie Curie
- Albert Einstein
- Red Cross
- Martin Luther King Junior
- Mother Teresa
- Dalai Lama

Explain that these people or organisations have all won a Nobel Prize in the past.

- Do you know who any of these names?
- Can you find out more about the work they did and why they won a Nobel Prize?
- Which Nobel Prize did they receive and when?
- Can you see how their work benefitted humankind?

Option 2: Share the Nobel Prize fact table with the children. Ask them to discuss what the information shows.

- Can you complete the total section?
- Order the number of prizes given for each award from most to least.
- Focus on the physics award. How many awards were given that were shared by two laureates ($32 \times 2 = 64$)? How many by three ($35 \times 3 = 105$)?
- How can you check the number of laureates total is correct?

Nobel Prize	Number of prizes	Number of laureates	Awarded to one laureate	Shared by two laureates	Shared by three laureates
Physics	115	219	47	32	36
Chemistry	113	186	63	24	25
Medicine	112	224	39	34	39
Literature	114	118	110	4	0
Peace	103	137	69	31	2
Economic sciences	53	89	25	20	8
Total					

KS1 Follow-up Ideas

Option 1: Remind the children of some of the different prizes and awards we might receive both in school and out. Create a list on the board. Ask them to think about a time when they received a prize or award.

- When did you receive it?
- What was it for?
- Can you describe the award/prize? What it looks, smells, feels like?
- How did it make you feel?

Draw a picture of the award and use words and sentences to describe it.

Option 2: Use the opportunity to create your own awards ceremony inspired by the Nobel Prizes! Discuss what your awards will celebrate e.g. an art or music competition, an impact/making a difference award, a talent show. Once you have decided, allow the children to choose their role. Use the following or create your own roles:

- Presenters
- Selection committee/judges
- Competitors
- Award/certificate designers
- Media coverage

Hold your class awards ceremony! Make sure you celebrate everyone coming together and working as a team to make it happen.

This Week's Useful Websites

This week's news story

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-58787438>

This Week's Useful Videos

The Nobel Prize – explainer video

www.youtube.com/watch?v=94YQ3el6LMc

This Week's Virtual Assembly

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This Week's Useful Vocabulary

Achievement – a thing done successfully with courage, skill or effort.

The Nobel Prize Foundation gives six awards each year for very special **achievements**.

Announced – told people publicly and officially.

This year's Nobel Prize winners have been **announced**.

Annual – something that happens once every year.

The **annual** awards take place in Sweden.

Deter – discourage someone from doing something.

There will be times our good deeds go unnoticed – this shouldn't **deter** us from doing great things!

Discovery – becoming aware of something that was not known before.

This could be for making a scientific **discovery**, trying to restore peace or for medical research.

Restore – causing something to exist again.

This could be for making a scientific discovery, trying to **restore** peace or for medical research.