

GREGOR JOHANN MENDEL



Gregor Johann Mendel was born the 22nd of July, 1822 in Czech Republic. His father was a poor peasant. When he was 23 years old, he entered an Augustinian monastery in Moravia. In fact, he became prior of that same monastery some years later. He studied Mathematics and Science in the university of Vienna.

He investigated genetic inheritance and made a lot of experiments in the monastery's garden. He cultivated and tested more than 27.000 pea plants, paying attention to one or two characteristics every time, to see how inheritance works.

Mendel interpreted his results in a very similar way to how we do it now. This is an extraordinary fact, because he had less materials and knowledge, as chromosomes were unknown in those days.

He published an article with his results in 1866, but it was not considered important or relevant. But in 1900, some biologists recognized the importance of his work. They made crossing experiments and reached similar conclusions as **Mendel**, and as a result, he became known as one of the most important biologists. He died in 1884.

Answer the following questions:

1. Where did Mendel start cultivating plants for his experiments?

2. Was Mendel considered a very important scientist when he was alive?

3. How old was Mendel when he died?

4. Why can his results be considered extraordinary?

5. Name two physical features you think you have inherited from your parents.
