Scientists and Inventors

William Smith’s nickname was Strata because he spent so long looking at the layers of rock, or strata, he found while he was working on canals or mines.

While he was held captive in the South American jungle, plant hunter Tom Hart Dyke kept himself feeling positive by planning his World Garden, containing plants laid out in the shape of the Earth.

The famous plant hunter Joseph Banks was instrumental in the European settlement of Australia. After sailing with Captain Cook to look for new plants, he became involved in choosing settlement sites and selecting governors to lead each area.
**Scientists and Inventors**

**Marie Curie** was born Maria Sklodowska. She became known as Marie when she enrolled at the University of Paris. She signed her name Marie to seem more French.

In 1903 **Marie Curie** won the Nobel Prize for Physics. The awarding committee originally objected to presenting the prize to a woman, but Pierre Curie insisted that she deserved it.

**William Smith** did not receive recognition for his ideas until later life. When people realised what he had achieved he was rewarded with prizes and opportunities. He was selected to advise on the choice of stone with which to build the new Houses of Parliament in 1838.

Although **Inge Lehmann** is best known for discovering the Earth's solid core in 1936, she also studied and learnt more about the Earth's mantle, the layer of the Earth between the crust and the outer core.
Some experiments have suggested that the Earth’s solid core spins slightly faster than the Earth itself!

It isn’t known when the first mirrors were created. Some examples of polished stone mirrors have been found in Turkey dating back 6000 years!

In 1835 a German scientist called Justus von Liebig developed the first silvered-glass mirror where a thin layer of metallic silver is put onto glass.

A train in China can move without wheels! The train uses electromagnets to make it hover as it moves smoothly along the magnetic track.
In recognition of André-Marie Ampère’s work on electromagnetism, the unit for measuring electric current was named after him. Electricity is today measured in amperage, or amps for short.