

Over the years, some of the most important scientific discoveries have come from the minds of young people. Isaac Newton and Albert Einstein both started their research when they were teenagers. So what are young scientists working on these days?

Jack Andraka was only 15 years old when he found a new test for a particular type of cancer cell. He started doing his research in a school laboratory and later continued it from the basement of his house. Cancer expert, Aniran Maitra found out about Jack's work and was very impressed with his ideas. He invited Jack to work in the laboratory at a local university and helped him with his training.

Jack worked on his research over seven months. He worked after school, at weekends and during the holidays. He even spent his 15th birthday in the laboratory! Finally, he developed a new test for cancer which is less expensive and more likely to find cancer cells than any other tests which have been used. Experts have said that this is a very important development in cancer research. Jack won a prize for his discovery at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. Since then, he has spoken at several conferences and he has started his own company. He didn't want to leave high school, though, because he enjoyed it.

Jack Andraka is not the only young scientist who has been making discoveries. Sara Volz was 17 years old when she decided to develop a fuel using plants that she grew in her bedroom. She created her own laboratory and developed the new fuel under her bed. The plants needed light at certain times of day and Sara set up the same light cycle as her plants. Her discovery is important because it shows how in the future plants could be used as fuel instead of oil or gas. She won the Intel Science Talent Search prize for her discovery.

Since then, Sara has been studying at university and she works in a laboratory, too. She thinks that it's exciting to question the world. She has been working with other scientists to identify genes and to change them in a way that might cure some diseases. Sara said that experiments aren't always successful. She believes that failure can be good because when an experiment fails, you learn something new.

Read the article again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F).

1. Jack started his research in the basement of his house. _____
2. A cancer expert called Aniran Maitra was very interested in Jack's ideas. _____
3. Jack couldn't work on his research at the weekends. _____
4. Jack failed to complete his research. _____
5. Sara discovered a new type of plant. _____
6. Sara Volz created a laboratory in her kitchen. _____
7. Sara is at university now. _____
8. Sara's experiments don't always work. _____