



Introduction

This is a learning as well as an exam preparation video.

At the end of the video are practice assignments for you to attempt.

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Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

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Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

1. Richard's Success at Young Age:

The article of Richard and his friend was published in the scientific journal *'Proceedings of the National Academy of Science'*. He was only twenty two years old at that time. It was the first time that the research work of college students was published. It was a rare honour for Richard.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

2. Richard-A Collector from Childhood:

Richard was the only child of his parents. He grew up at reading in Pennsylvania, USA. He had no one to play with. So, he started collecting things like rocks, fossils and coins. Gazing at stars and collecting butterflies were his hobbies.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

3. Richard's Mother—His Companion:

Richard's mother was constantly with him. She encouraged him by taking him on trips and bought him telescopes and other equipment. She found work to challenge him and helped him to learn a lot.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

4. Richard Reads 'The Travels of Monarch X':

The reading of a children's book titled 'The Travels of Monarch X' inspired him. He became interested in the world of science. The book asked the readers to study butterfly migrations. Richard came in contact with the scientist Dr Urquhart through this book, who influenced him greatly.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

5. Richard Raises Monarch Butterflies :

Richard decided to raise butterflies at home to study their migration pattern. He would catch a female monarch and take her eggs. He would watch all the stages of development of the butterfly. Then he would tag their wings and free them. He did it for many years and raised thousands of butterflies in the basement of his home.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

6. Richard Enters County Science Fair:

Richard displayed his slides of frogs at the county science fair, but did not win any award. He realised that he needed to carry out real experiments to win an award. He took suggestions from Dr Urquhart. As a result of his many experiments, he won many prizes at the county and international science fairs in the following years.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

7. Richard's Eighth Grade Project:

Richard tried to find the cause of a viral fever that kills thousands of monarch butterflies. He thought that a beetle may carry the virus that causes viral fever. Although this was not the case, he still won a prize for his project.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

8. Richard's Win at County Science Fair:

Richard experimented on viceroy butterflies. He tried to prove that viceroys copy monarchs. Viceroys do it to protect themselves from birds as birds don't eat monarchs. The project won the first prize in the Zoology division and overall third prize in the county science fair.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

9. Richard's Discovery of a Hormone:

Richard was curious to know the reason behind twelve gold spots on a monarch pupa. He and his friends built a device to prove that the spots were producing a hormone necessary for its full development. The project got him first prize in the county fair. He also entered the International Science and Engineering Fair. He got third prize for Zoology in this fair.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

10. Richard Continues his Research on Monarch Pupa:

Richard grew cells from the wings of a monarch butterfly. He further proved that cells grow into scales of wings only when they are injected with the hormone from the gold spots. He carried on his work at the Army laboratory and laboratory of the US Department of Agriculture. After his freshman year at Harvard, he returned to the laboratory of the Department of Agriculture to identify the chemical structure of hormone. This gave him a new idea about cell life.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

11. Richard's Study of Cell and DNA:

Richard's research on the hormone gave him an idea. He believed that his study could tell how cells read their DNA. He, along with his college roommate, James R Wong, worked on the idea. Then, they wrote a paper explaining their theory.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

12. Richard's Glory at Harvard:

Richard graduated with second position in a class of 1510 students. He became a graduate student researcher. He started experimenting to prove his new theory. His theory may create new ways to prevent some types of cancer and other diseases.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

13. Richard—An All-Rounder:

Richard was not just a scientist. He was an allrounder. He was a good debater and a public speaker. He was also a photographer and an outdoors-person. His social studies teacher praised him for his will to work hard, do his best and win.

Chapter 6: The Making Of Scientist

Summary

14. Richard—A True Scientist:

Richard had all qualities that made him a true scientist. He had curiosity and a first rate mind. He wanted to win for the right reasons.

Chapter 6: The Making Of A Scientist

Conclusion

In the chapter – The Making of a Scientist teaches perseverant and dedicated towards our work. This will help us achieve our dreams and would bear the fruits of our labour some day, sooner or later.

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