

Science discovery events

YA = Years Ago, BCE = Before Current Era (BC)

When	Event	Comments
4,600,000,000 YA	Earth & solar system formed	Best estimate to date
3,500,000,000 YA	First bacteria	Cyanobacteria
700,000,000 YA	First animal	A jellyfish
225,000,000 YA	First mammal	A type of shrew
66,000,000 YA	Most dinosaurs go extinct	Darned asteroid
4,000,000 YA	Early pre-humans in the savannah	<i>Australopithecines</i> (Africa)
200,000 YA	First humans	<i>Homo sapiens</i>
5,400 YA	First writing	Cuneiform in Uruk (now Iraq)
240 BCE	Discover Earth is round	Eratosthenes (Greece)
1021	Propose the scientific method	Ibn al-Haytham (now Iraq)
1590	Discover gravity	Galileo Galilei (Italy)
1804	Discover atoms exist	John Dalton (England)
1842	Discover dinosaurs existed	Richard Owen (England)
1857	Propose the germ theory of disease	Louis Pasteur (France)
1869	Discover DNA	Friedrich Miescher (Switzerland)
1892	Fingerprinting used in court	Inspector Eduardo Alvarez (Argentina)
1898	Discover radiation	Marie and Pierre Curie (France)
1907	Plastic invented	Leo Baekeland (USA)
1908	Electric washing machine invented	Alva J. Fisher (USA)
1924	Discover other galaxies exist	Edwin Hubble (USA)
1925	Sun is made of hydrogen & helium	Cecilia Payne (USA)
1927	Propose Big Bang theory	Georges Lemaître (Belgium)
1937	First jet engine	Sr Frank Whittle (UK)
1938	Discover nuclear reactions	Otto Hahn & Fritz Strassmann (Germany)
1945	First nuclear explosion	July 16, "Trinity" Los Alamos, NM (USA)
1945	First general purpose digital electronic computer	ENIAC (USA)
1953	DNA structure determined	Francis Crick, Rosalind Franklin, James Watson, Maurice Wilkins (UK)
1961	Integrated circuit patented (basis for computer chips)	Robert Noyce (USA)
1986	First DNA test used for court	Dr. Alec J. Jeffreys (UK)
2000	Last time all humans on Earth	ISS occupied since 11/2/2000 (space)
2022	First complete human DNA	Telomere-to-Telomere Consortium (many)