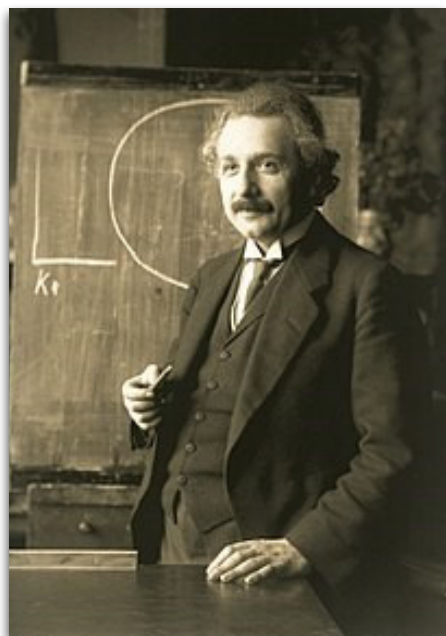


Refugee Week: Refugee Scientists

Here at Dynamic Earth we want to celebrate the contributions refugees have made to science.

Watch [this clip](#) of some school children celebrating the friends they know who are also refugees.

Now have a read about some of the famous scientists and their inventions or discoveries!



Albert Einstein

You may have heard of Albert Einstein, who came up with the Theory of Relativity which is important in our understanding of space and time. Some of his other discoveries also led us to things we enjoy and use today, like garage door openers, televisions, and DVD players. Einstein was born in Germany but because he was Jewish he moved to the US to escape Nazi persecution in the Second World War. He became a refugee in the USA.

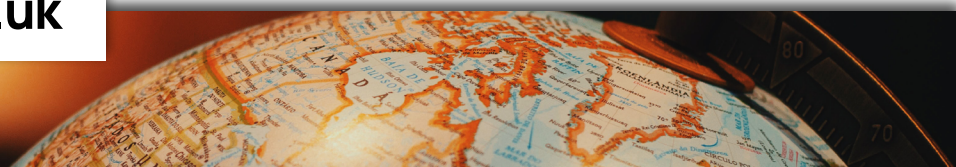
Emmanuel Dongala

Emmanuel Dongala is a chemist specialising in how atoms make up molecules and the harmful effects of toxic chemicals on living organisms. In 1997, Dongala was a professor of chemistry in the Republic of Congo when civil war broke out. Thousands of people were killed in the war, but Dongala was able to find refuge teaching in New York.



Edith Bulbring

An expert in how drugs and medicines work, Edith Bulbring studied how a type of body tissue called smooth muscle works. This type of tissue turns out to be pretty important and exists all over our body, from controlling our blood pressure to helping us digest food. Bulbring was studying infectious diseases in Berlin when the Nazis rose to power, but she found sanctuary in Oxford.



San Thang

San Thang helped advance the science around polymers (long chains of molecules linked together). He and some colleagues co-developed a method which can create special complex polymers. These can be used to make self-cleaning and scratch proof devices, next generation paints, oils and drug delivery systems. Thang fought many barriers to achieve this success as he had to flee Vietnam because his family were persecuted for their Chinese heritage. He found refuge in Australia.



Emmy Noether

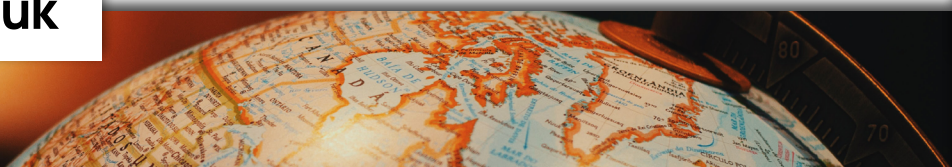
Emmy Noether was a German Jewish mathematician who made lots of really important contributions to algebra and theoretical physics. She was a friend and colleague of Albert Einstein! She fled to the USA before World War Two to escape persecution by the Nazis. You can learn more about her in her profile on Dynamic Earth Online.

Our lives wouldn't be the same without these amazing contributions to science. Of course, not all refugees will make incredible scientific discoveries (just like not all non-refugees will), but it's still really important to welcome and celebrate people seeking safety. You don't need to be Albert Einstein to be worthy of living in safety, but you never know what potential people might have given the opportunity to live safely and happily!

Check out some other contributions refugees have made to arts and culture [here](#).

Activity:

Why not share the amazing contributions of refugees with someone else? Pick one person from the timeline from the link above, or choose another famous refugee and learn about their lives. You could make a poster about their lives!



Final Activity!

Based on this year's theme 'We Cannot Walk Alone' we would like you to write a welcoming letter to someone who may be seeking safety in your local area.

In the letter you could write about everything you like about Scotland and your local area.

Remember to make it as welcoming as possible and we recommend doing some drawings on it too!

Where to send your letters:

You can send them in to Dynamic Earth and we will pass on your letters to an amazing organisation called [The Welcoming](#) who help to welcome and support Refugees in Edinburgh.

Either send them by email to enquiries@dynamicearth.co.uk

Or post them to us at

Dynamic Earth
Holyrood Rd
Edinburgh
EH8 8AS

If you are based in or near Glasgow, you can send your letters to [Refuweegee](#).

For elsewhere in Scotland, do an online search with "refugee" and the name of your nearest town to see if you have any local refugee support groups you could write to!

Here are some ideas for what to include in your letters:

- A warm welcome!
- Your name
- Your age
- What the weather is like here
- Your favourite place to visit nearby
- What the people are like near you
- What's special about Scotland
- Your top tips for living here

Your letters could make a huge difference in making refugees feel welcome here!

