

# Scientists and Inventors

## Lesson 4: Discovering Oxygen

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February

# Discovering Oxygen



# Success Criteria

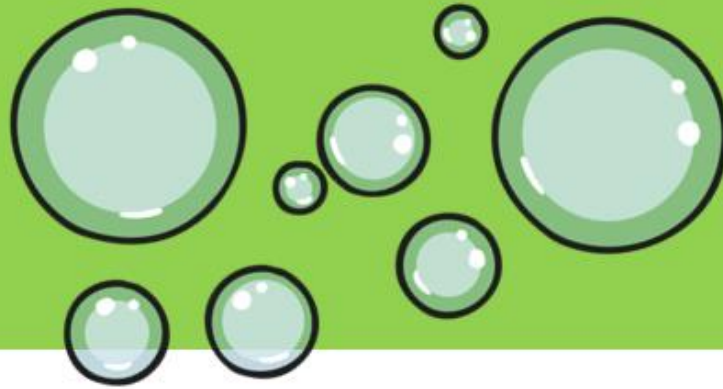
- I can discuss the achievements of Garrett Morgan.
- I can identify the parts of a circuit.
- I can evaluate my work.



# Oxygen

**What is oxygen?** What is it useful for?

Oxygen is a gas at room temperature. It is the third most common element and is needed by most forms of life on Earth. Animals and plants take in oxygen for respiration. Oxygen makes up around 21% of the air around us.



# Who Discovered Oxygen?

Two scientists were mainly responsible for the discovery of oxygen: Antoine Lavoisier and Joseph Priestley.

## **Antoine Lavoisier 1743-1794**

Antoine Lavoisier was born into a wealthy French family. His father was a lawyer and Lavoisier inherited a large fortune at the age of five when his mother died. He was very interested in science at school and although he received a law degree, he never became a lawyer. Instead, he worked in various government jobs and was elected to the Royal Academy of Science in 1764. In 1775, he set up a laboratory in Paris where he could conduct experiments. It was in this lab that Lavoisier made many of his important discoveries to do with chemistry.



# Who Discovered Oxygen?

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## **Joseph Priestley 1733-1804**

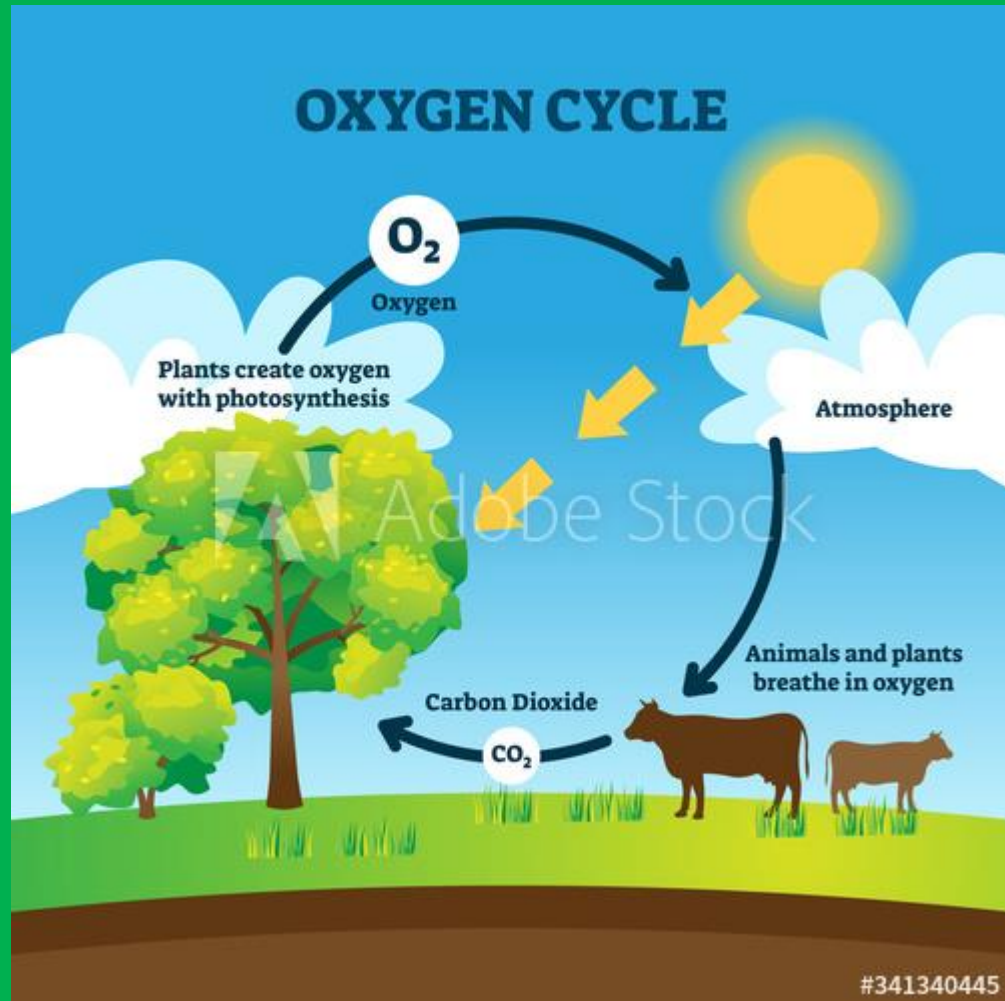
Joseph Priestley was an English chemist and theologian (someone who studies God and religion). He was born in Yorkshire and was the eldest of six children. From the age of one, he lived with his grandfather and then his aunt and uncle. He attended the best local schools. In 1755, he became a religious minister in Suffolk. He became interested in the sciences and conducted experiments while he was working as a minister. Between 1767 and 1770, he presented five papers to the Royal Society explaining his experiments. In the 1770s, he began his experiments into what he called 'different airs' and this is when he made most of his discoveries.





Watch the clip below to find out about the oxygen cycle.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W\\_nlWEtj91Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_nlWEtj91Y)



**Task:** On your sheet, divide the page in half (use a ruler!). Write the names of the two scientists we have learnt about today. Look back at the fact slides on each one, sort the statements and write them into the correct column.

Antoine Lavoisier

Joseph Priestley

His mother died when he was just five years old.

He had five brothers and sisters.

He conducted a series of experiments into 'different airs'.

He set up his own laboratory to conduct important experiments.

He worked as a minister.

He was chosen to be a member of the Royal Academy of Science.



Well Done Year 4!

