

Stephen Hawking

By Ryan Fleming





A Little About Stephen Hawking:

Stephen Hawking was born in Oxford, England on 8th January 1942.

He died on 14th March 2018.

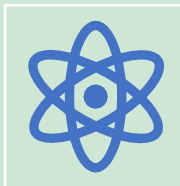
He was a theoretical physicist.

He was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease aged 21.

Education



Hawking attended St Albans school in 1952, after passing his Eleven Plus a year early.



He again started his further education early, aged 17 he studied Physics at Oxford, and graduated with a B.A. Physics in 1962. He then went on to complete his Ph.D. in Physics at Cambridge in 1966.



Family

Stephen Hawking's parents were both medical researchers.

He was married to Jane Wilde in 1965, they had 3 children together, Robert, Lucy and Timothy.

They later separated, and he married Elaine Mason in 1995.



Disability

Stephen Hawking was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease aged just 21. It is a fatal disease, that affects the motor neurones in the brain and spinal cord.

He was expected to live just 2 years after the diagnosis.

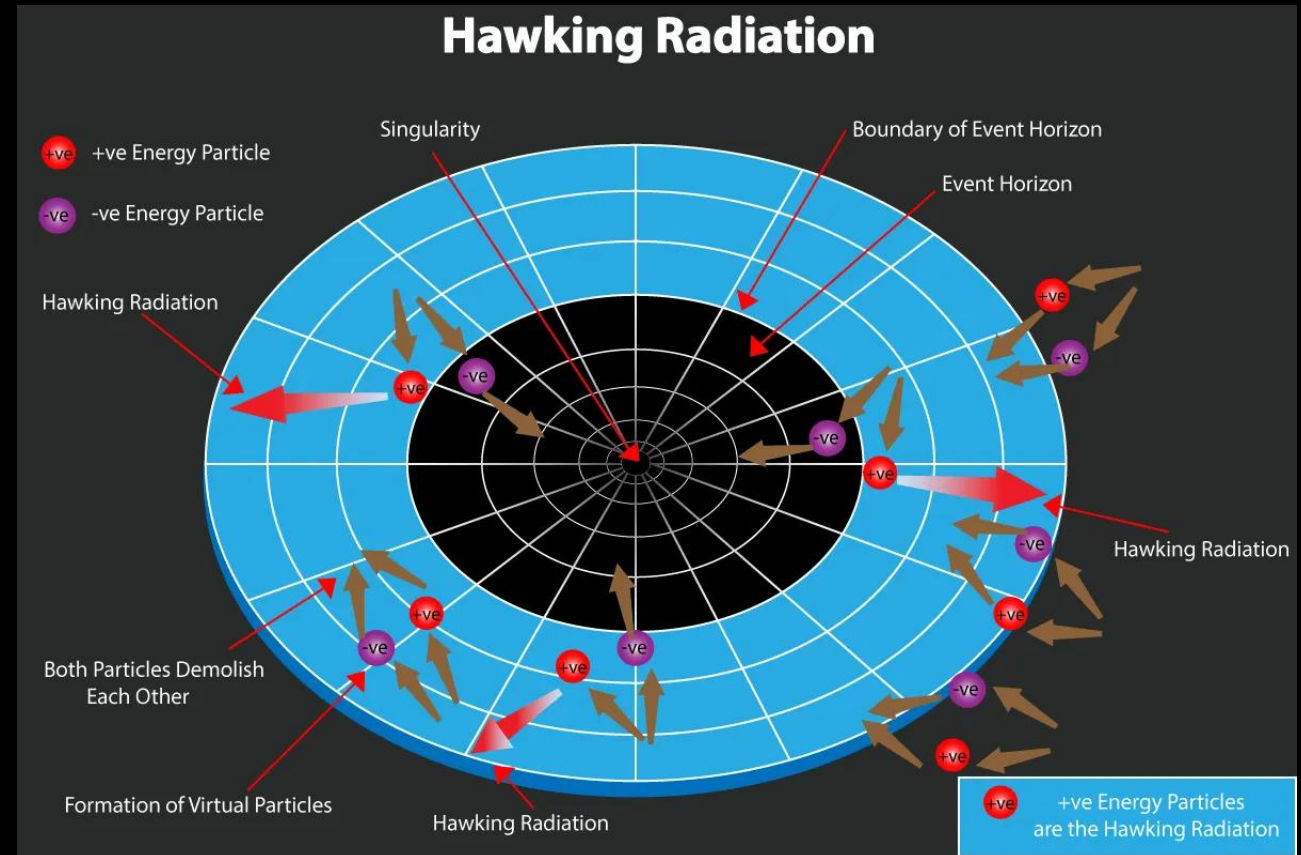
By the late 1970s Hawking used a powered wheelchair, he liked to be a bit naughty when driving his wheelchair, showing his humorous side.

Stephen Hawking is well known for his computer sounding voice, after his speech deteriorated, he started to use an equaliser, where he selected from around 3000 scanned words and phrases.

Why was Stephen Hawking famous?

Stephen Hawking studied time, the theory of relativity, laws of physics, gravity, and quantum mechanics. Though he is best known for his discovery that black holes emit radiation which can be detected by a special instrument. This is called 'Hawking Radiation'.

His work showed that black holes emit radiation in the X-Ray to Gamma Ray range, and this can be measured. His discovery made the detailed study of black holes possible, and understanding how gravitational physics and quantum physics fit together.



Awards and recognition

Stephen Hawking's contributions to physics earned him many awards and recognition.

In 1974 the Royal Society elected him one of its youngest fellows.

He became professor of gravitational physics at Cambridge in 1977.

In 1979 he was appointed to Cambridge's Lucasian professorship of mathematics, a post once held by Isaac Newton.

In 1982 Stephen Hawking was also made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) and a Companion of Honour in 1989.

He also received the Copley Medal from the Royal Society in 2006.

And the U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2009.



Popular books

Stephen Hawking has authored and co-authored many books and publications. A selection of these are:

A Brief History of Time (1988)

Black Holes and Baby Universes and Other Essays (1993)

The Universe in a Nutshell (2001)

On the Shoulders of Giants (2002)

My Brief History (2013)

Brief Answers to the Big Questions (2018)

Stephen Hawking has also co-written 5 children's fiction books with his daughter Lucy.

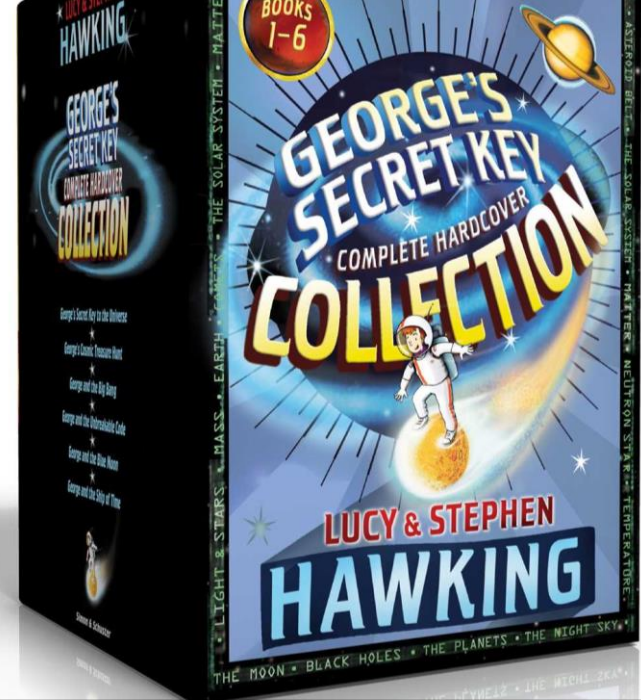
George's Secret Key to the Universe (2007)

George's Cosmic Treasure Hunt (2009)

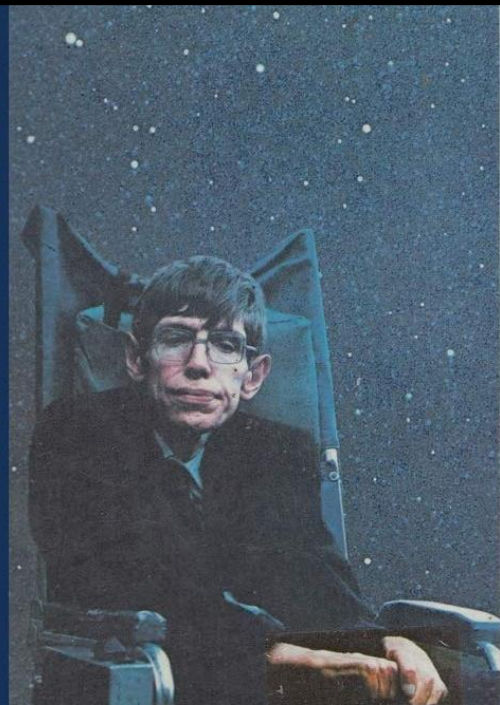
George and the Big Bang (2011)

George and the Unbreakable Code (2014)

George and the Blue Moon (2016)



FROM
THE BIG
BANG TO
BLACK
HOLES

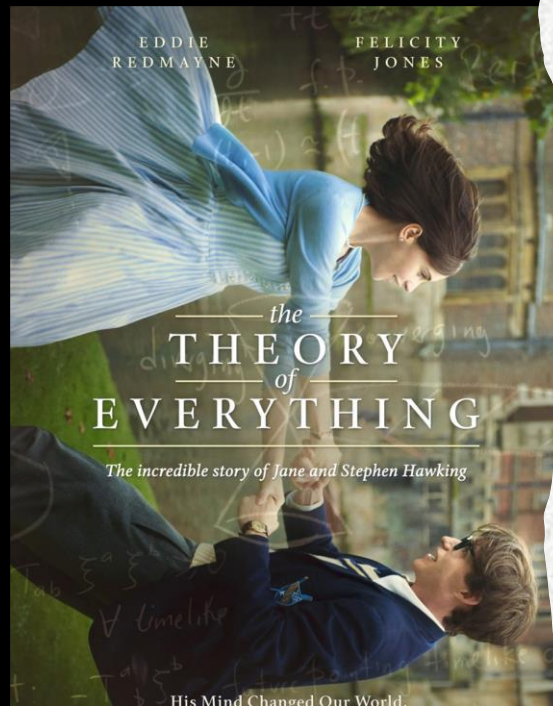




Interesting facts

Stephen Hawking has appeared on several TV shows, either as himself or his voice. Some of these are:

- The Big Bang Theory
- The Simpsons
- Star Trek
- Futurama



In 2014 the film 'The Theory of Everything' was released. This film detailed the life of Stephen Hawking.