



# Who Was Aristotle?

## WORD BANK

Polymath - a person who knows a lot of different subjects

Influential - something or someone who has a big impact on people

Macedonia - a place in Northern Greece and also a country north of Greece

Biology - the study of life

Natural Sciences - sciences that try to understand the natural world

Academy - a school or college

Lesbos - a Greek island near Turkey

Politics - the study of how a country, city or place should be run by those in power

Ethics - the study of how people should treat each other and act

The Lyceum - the school Aristotle founded

Peripatetic - traveling place to place, especially as a teacher

Insatiable - too much to be satisfied

Logic - the study of thought and reason

Metaphysics - the study of abstract things, like time, being, knowing and space

Foundation - the underlying idea

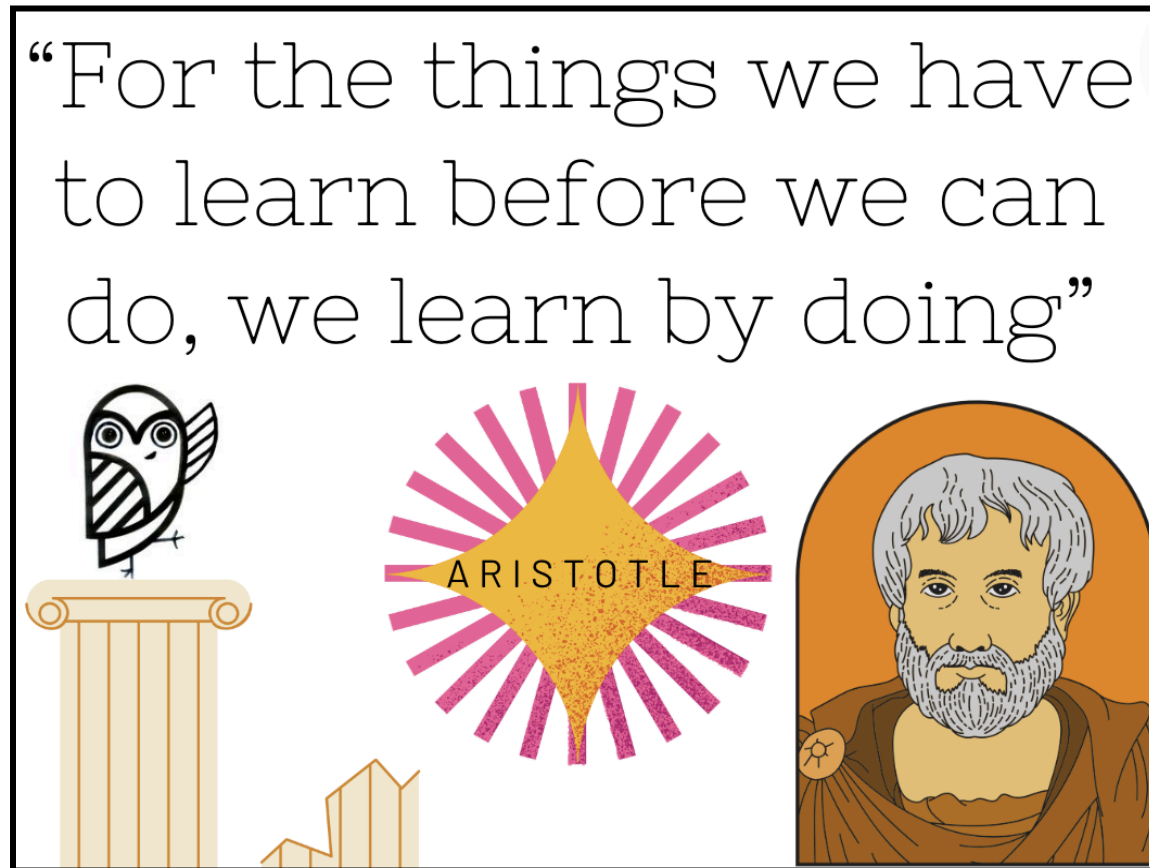
Aristotle was an ancient Greek philosopher, scientist, and polymath. He was an extremely famous student... and a teacher! He wrote about so many different ideas and is one of the most influential thinkers in human history.

But who was he?

Aristotle was born in a city in Macedonia. His father was the doctor to the king of Macedonia. No wonder Aristotle liked biology and natural sciences!

At the age of 17, Aristotle moved to Athens to become Plato's student at Plato's Academy. He was there for almost 20 years, until Plato died. Afterwards, Aristotle left Athens and traveled a lot, including to the island of Lesbos. There he did amazing scientific research and studied hundreds of different animals. He did this by looking at them very, very carefully and making notes.

Later he traveled back to Macedonia to teach Alexander the Great, who was then only a teenager. Aristotle taught the future king philosophy, politics, ethics, science, and literature.



Aristotle returned to Athens and founded his own school, *the Lyceum*. His teaching involved walking around the *peripatos* (covered walkway). This is why they were called a "Peripatetic School".

Aristotle died at the age of 62 in his mother's town, Chalcis.

Aristotle spent his life seeking knowledge. He had an insatiable curiosity about the natural world and wanted to understand how things worked.

Aristotle wrote about so many things, including philosophy, logic, ethics, politics, biology, and metaphysics. His ideas have had a huge influence on the development of Western thought. Aristotle is a very important philosopher to know... aren't you glad you know about him now?