

- **age** = period, time
- **chandelier** = a large round object that holds candles; it hangs down from the ceiling and has small pieces of glass on it
- **condemn** = criticize, here: to show that his teachings are bad
- **construct** = build
- **discovery** = to see something new or find out things for the first time
- **final** = last
- **found – founded** = to start something or be the first person to do something
- **Inquisition** = a Roman Catholic organization that punished people who had different beliefs
- **law** = rule
- **Leaning Tower** = a tall round tower in Pisa, Italy; it is not straight but is tilted to one side
- **notice** = observe, see
- **observe** = watch
- **pendulum** = a long metal stick that swings from one side to another on a clock
- **prove** = show that something is true
- **publish** = bring out, print
- **question** = to have doubts about something, not to be sure of something
- **revolve** = to go around in a circle
- **rough** = uneven, irregular
- **sentence** = punish a person in court
- **size** = how large something is
- **smooth** = flat, even
- **surface** = the top layer of an object or planet
- **swing** = to move backwards and forwards in a circle
- **telescope** = an instrument with which you can see the stars and planets
- **weight** = how heavy something is

Galileo is often called the **founder** of modern science. He made many **discoveries** in astronomy and physics and he built **telescopes** to study space.

Galileo Galilei was born in Pisa, Italy in 1564. His father sent him to the university to study medicine, but young Galileo was more interested in science and mathematics.

Galileo made one of his greatest **discoveries** as he sat in a cathedral of Pisa. As he watched a **chandelier swing** back and forth he **noticed** that longer and shorter swings took the same time. This **discovery** became known as the **law** of the **pendulum**. These and other important discoveries made him so well-known that Galileo became a professor at the University of Pisa.

Galileo often **questioned** scientific facts of his **age**. For a long time people thought that heavier objects fall to Earth faster than lighter ones. By dropping objects of the same **size** but different **weights** from the **Leaning Tower** of Pisa Galileo showed that this wasn't true.

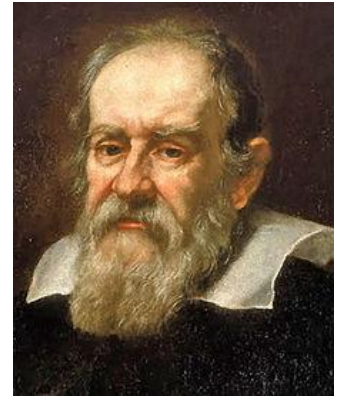
In 1609 Galileo **constructed** his first telescope. He used it to **observe** the stars and the planets. He saw things that nobody had ever seen before. Galileo discovered that the moon's **surface** was not **smooth** and flat, like everyone thought, but had a **rough** surface and was full of craters.

In January 1610 Galileo discovered 4 moons **revolving** around the Jupiter. They were named after him, the Galilean moons. These observations **proved** that not the Earth was the centre of the solar system, but the sun. It was a **discovery** that Copernicus had made 60 years earlier.

The Roman Catholic Church did not always like what Galileo taught. It still believed that the Earth was the centre of the universe and everything **revolved** around it. The church ordered him not to teach such ideas any more.

In 1633 Galileo was brought before the **Inquisition**, the Church's court. It **sentenced** him to life in prison because of his teachings. Galileo was put under house arrest because he was old and not so healthy any more. He spent the last years of his life in Florence, where he continued to work on his theories and even **published** a **final** book. He became blind and died in 1642.

In 1992 Pope John Paul II published a document that said the Church made a mistake by **condemning** Galileo.



Galileo in front of the Roman Catholic Inquisition

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**1. Answer the questions**

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When and where was Galileo born? \_\_\_\_\_

What did his father want him to study at first? \_\_\_\_\_

What did he prove when he saw the swinging of a chandelier? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What did Galileo find out about the moon? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What did Galileo find out about the solar system? How did he find this out? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why was the church angry with Galileo? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How did it punish him? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How did Galileo live in his final years? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**2. Explain in English**

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inquisition \_\_\_\_\_

pendulum \_\_\_\_\_

discover \_\_\_\_\_

telescope \_\_\_\_\_

surface \_\_\_\_\_

condemn \_\_\_\_\_

revolve \_\_\_\_\_

3. True or False

	T	F
Galileo's father wanted his son to study medicine.		
Nicolas Copernicus was the first to discover that a long pendulum swing takes longer than a shorter one.		
In 1992 Pope John Paul II made Galileo a saint.		
Galileo discovered moons that went around Jupiter.		
Before Galileo's discoveries people thought that the surface of the moon was smooth and flat.		
Heavier objects fall to the ground faster than lighter ones of the same size.		
Towards the end of his life Galileo became blind.		

4. Fill in the missing words from the box

Galileo was a great \_\_\_\_\_ and scientist who made many \_\_\_\_\_ that changed the way we think of our world. His father wanted him to become a \_\_\_\_\_ but Galileo was more interested in studying physics and \_\_\_\_\_.

He was the first one to see that the \_\_\_\_\_ of the swings that a \_\_\_\_\_ makes is always the same. He also showed that objects of the same \_\_\_\_\_ fall to Earth at the same speed, no matter how \_\_\_\_\_ they are.

Galileo constructed \_\_\_\_\_ with which he could observe the stars and the planets. He discovered that the moon was full of \_\_\_\_\_ and didn't have a \_\_\_\_\_ surface like everybody thought. He also proved that the sun was the centre of the \_\_\_\_\_, not the Earth. Galileo observed objects that \_\_\_\_\_ around Jupiter. Nobody else had seen these moons before.

The Roman Catholic Church however did not like Galileo's theories and discoveries. They put him in front of a \_\_\_\_\_, the Inquisition. He was not allowed to \_\_\_\_\_ any more and was put under house arrest in Florence, where he died in 1642.

- astronomer
- court
- craters
- discoveries
- doctor
- heavy
- length
- mathematics
- pendulum
- revolved
- size
- smooth
- solar system
- teach
- telescopes

*True or False*

	T	F
Galileo’s father wanted his son to study medicine.	✓	
Nicolas Copernicus was the first to discover that a long pendulum swing takes longer than a shorter one.		✓
In 1992 Pope John Paul II made Galileo a saint.		✓
Galileo discovered moons that went around Jupiter.	✓	
Before Galileo’s discoveries people thought that the surface of the moon was smooth and flat.	✓	
Heavier objects fall to the ground faster than lighter ones of the same size.		✓
Towards the end of his life Galileo became blind.	✓	

*Fill in the missing words from the box*

Galileo was a great **astronomer** and scientist who made many **discoveries** that changed the way we think of our world. His father wanted him to become a **doctor** but Galileo was more interested in studying physics and **mathematics**.

He was the first one to see that the **length** of the swings that a **pendulum** makes is always the same. He also showed that objects of the same **size** fall to Earth at the same speed, no matter how **heavy** they are.

Galileo constructed **telescopes** with which he could observe the stars and the planets. He discovered that the moon was full of **craters** and didn’t have a **smooth** surface like everybody thought. He also proved that the sun was the centre of the **solar system**, not the Earth. Galileo observed objects that **revolved** around Jupiter. Nobody else had seen these moons before.

The Roman Catholic Church however did not like Galileo’s theories and discoveries. They put him in front of a **court**, the Inquisition. He was not allowed to **teach** any more and was put under house arrest in Florence, where he died in 1642.