

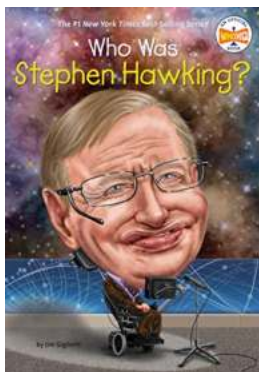
# Who Was Stephen Hawking?

Stephen Hawking, a legendary physicist and cosmologist, captured the world's imagination with his groundbreaking work on black holes and the nature of the universe. Throughout his remarkable life, he defied all odds and achieved extraordinary scientific advancements, all while battling a debilitating illness. In this article, we delve into the remarkable life and contributions of the brilliant Stephen Hawking.

## Early Years and Education

Stephen William Hawking was born on January 8, 1942, in Oxford, England. From a young age, his exceptional intellect and curiosity led him to question the mysteries of the universe. Being the eldest of four children, Stephen had a loving and intellectually stimulating family environment.

In 1959, he entered the University of Oxford, where he studied physics and developed a keen interest in cosmology. It was during this time that he began to show signs of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a progressive neurodegenerative disease that would eventually leave him almost completely paralyzed.



## Who Was Stephen Hawking? (Who Was?)

by Jim Gigliotti (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 119558 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 112 pages



## **A Scientific Revolution Begins**

Hawking's research into black holes and the Big Bang theory revolutionized our understanding of the universe. In 1974, he published a groundbreaking paper on black hole thermodynamics, proposing that black holes are not entirely black, but instead could emit thermal radiation, which was later named "Hawking radiation."

This incredible theoretical prediction challenged long-standing beliefs and ignited a new wave of research in the field of theoretical physics. Hawking's work bridged the gap between quantum mechanics and general relativity, providing insights into the nature of gravity and the origin of the universe itself.

## **A Battle Against Adversity**

Despite his worsening physical condition, Hawking continued to make significant contributions to the field of cosmology. As his paralysis progressed, he communicated using a speech-generating device and relied on colleagues, friends, and family for support. His determination and resilience in the face of immense adversity became synonymous with Hawking's legacy.

Throughout his career, Hawking held prestigious academic positions, including the Lucasian Professorship of Mathematics at the University of Cambridge, a position once held by Sir Isaac Newton. His achievements were recognized with numerous awards and honors, including the Albert Einstein Medal, the Copley Medal, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

## **A Remarkable Life Remembered**

Stephen Hawking's work not only shaped the field of theoretical physics, but also captivated the public's imagination. He authored several popular science books, including the best-selling "A Brief History of Time," which made complex scientific concepts accessible to a wider audience.

As a science communicator, Hawking became an iconic figure, bringing complex ideas and theories to the masses. His appearances in popular culture, such as on television shows like "The Simpsons" and "The Big Bang Theory," cemented his status as a cultural icon.

## **A Legacy that Transcends Time**

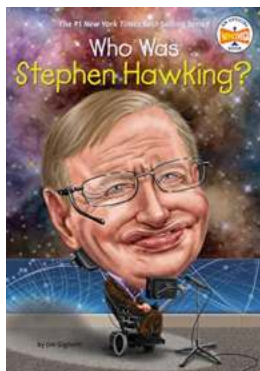
Stephen Hawking passed away on March 14, 2018, leaving behind a profound and lasting impact on the scientific community and the world at large. His contributions to our understanding of the universe, his resilience in the face of adversity, and his ability to inspire generations are a testament to the power of the human spirit.

Today, Hawking's legacy lives on through the Stephen Hawking Foundation, which strives to promote scientific research, raise awareness about disabilities, and support those affected by motor neurone disease.

## **In**

Stephen Hawking's life and work continue to inspire people around the world. His courage, determination, and unrivaled intellect earned him a place among the greatest scientists in history. By breaking down the barriers between the complex realm of theoretical physics and the general public, he ignited curiosity and encouraged a new generation of scientists to explore the mysteries of the universe.

Stephen Hawking's genius may have transcended the bounds of his physical body, but his impact will forever remain imprinted on the fabric of science and humanity.



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Learn more about the renowned British scientist, professor, and author who spent his entire career trying to answer the question: "Where did the universe come from?"

Stephen Hawking was born exactly three hundred years after the death of the scientist Galileo, so maybe it was written in the stars that he would become a famous scientist in his own right. Although he was diagnosed with a neurological disease at age 21, Stephen did not let the illness define his life. Known for his groundbreaking work in physics, and identified by his wheelchair and computerized voice system, Stephen continued his research until his death in 2018. He is best known for his black hole theories and his best-selling book *A Brief History of Time*. Stephen Hawking is an example of a person who had a great mind, but an even greater spirit.



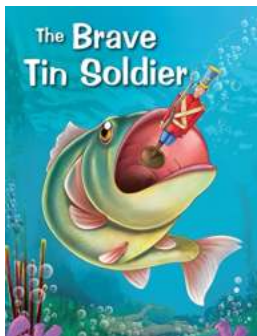
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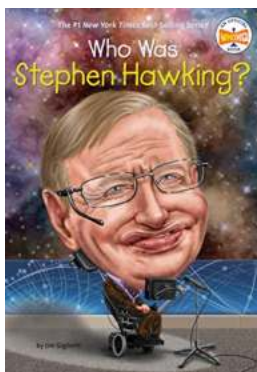
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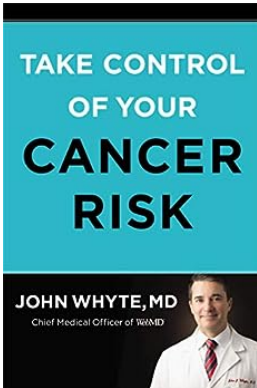
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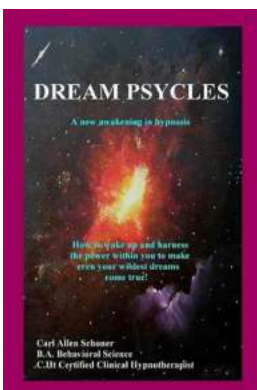
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