



M.V. Lomonosov



Mikhail Vasilievich Lomonosov
was born on the 19th of November 1711
in a fisherman's family, near **Kholmogory**
in the village of Denisovka (later
renamed **Lomonosovo** in his honour) in
the
Arkhangelsk region.



At an early age Mikhail learned to read and write through church books.

When he was fourteen, **Lomonosov** was given a Smotrytsky's grammar book and a Magnitsky's "Arithmetic"



When he was 19, **Lomonosov** went to **Moscow** on foot where he entered the Slavic Greek Latin Academy.



The Academy was closed to peasants so **Lomonosov** had to hide his peasant origin. He pretended to be of noble birth.

Here he studied Latin and mastered it in a short period of time. At that time he was broke, for his only income was three kopecks a day. But he made progress rapidly. He completed a twelve-year course in only five years, graduating at the top of his class.





He was a brilliant pupil and in 1736 he was sent abroad at the University of Marburg. While abroad **Lomonosov** studied philosophy, physics, mathematics and foreign languages and even began writing poetry. He also developed an interest in German literature.

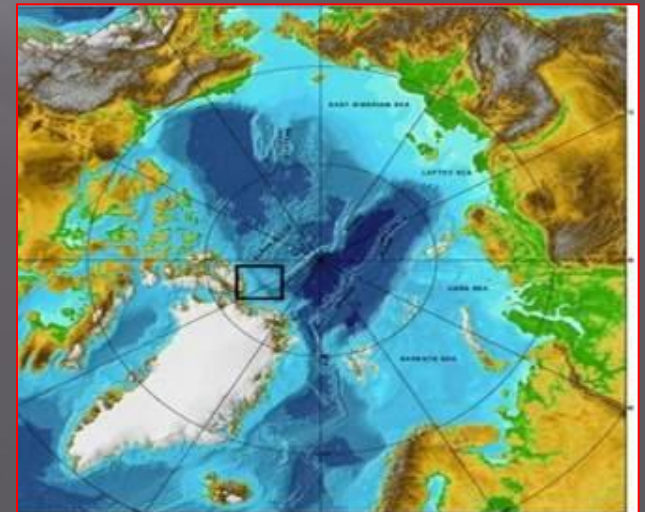




M.V.Lomonosov strove to upgrade the quality of Russian science and education. He founded **Moscow State University** in **1755**. This university was officially named after **Lomonosov**.



M.V.Lomonosov made many important discoveries in different fields of science: **physics, chemistry, astronomy**. The last period of Lomonosov's activity was connected with his scientific work in **navigation**. He tried to find a short sea route from the West to the East through the Arctic Ocean. In this field he was ahead of his age.



His literary works remain one of the most significant pages of Russian literature in the 18th century. He wrote verses, odes and poems. He also laid the basis for the scientific study of the Russian language, he wrote the first Russian grammar.



M.V.Lomonosov was also a talented artist. He revived the ancient art of stained glass mosaic in Russia, and he himself created several stained glass pictures (for example, the Poltava battle).





At the end of his life in 1764 Lomonosov was elected honorary member of the Stocholm and Bologna Academies



In 1765 **Lomonosov** caught a cold and died on the 15th of April at age 54. He was buried in the cemetery of **Alexander Nevsky Monastery in St Petersburg** .



M.V.Lomonosov is widely known and honoured in our country. He occupies a central place in the history of Russian science. The Russian Academy of Sciences annually awards a Russian and a foreign scientist with **Lomonosov honorary medals**.



Lomonosov is memorialized in many place names - **Moscow University** was named after its founder and monuments to him have been placed in **Moscow, St Petersburg, Arkhangelsk, Severodvinsk, the village of Lomonosovo.**

