



Name: Charles
Wyville Thomson
Birth Date: 5th March 1830
Birth Place: Linlithgow,
Scotland

Famous for...

Education



- Studied Medicine at University Of Edinburgh
- Became a Professor of Natural History University of Edinburgh
- Later became Professor at Queen's University Belfast

Charles Wyville Thomson was a Scottish natural scientist who became famous for leading the first global scientific ocean expedition, the HMS Challenger Expedition (1872-1876). This voyage is widely considered the beginning of modern **oceanography** (the study of oceans), as for the first time scientists systematically studied the world's oceans. Under his leadership, the expedition discovered thousands of marine species and proves that life exists in the deep ocean.


Impact Factor...

He helped establish oceanography as a modern scientific discipline and developed standard methods for collecting and analysing marine data, which are still used today.

Before the Challenger expedition, many scientists believed the deep sea was lifeless but Thomson's work helped prove that not only life exists but thrives in the deep sea.

The expedition produced the first detailed maps of ocean depths and collected data on ocean temperature, currents and chemistry and discovered thousands of new deep sea marine species.

Thomson highlighted the importance of international scientific cooperation. The Challenger Voyage involved scientists from different backgrounds and shared its findings world wide.



Knighted (1876) - Thomson was made Sir by the British Crown after returning from his voyage. This was one of the highest honours at the time.

Royal Medal (1876) - Awarded by the Royal Society. This medal recognised his groundbreaking discoveries in deep sea science.

Knight of the Polar Star (1877, Sweden) - This international awards showed that his work was respected across Europe. It recognised his global impact on science.

Awards and Recognitions