



GEORGE DE MESTRAL



WHO WAS GEORGE DE MESTRAL?

George de Mestral was an inventor from Switzerland who created something that many people use every day: Velcro. He was born on 19 June 1907 in Nyon, Switzerland. He loved nature and often thought about how things worked.

HOW DID HE INVENT VELCRO?

One day in 1941, after a walk in the countryside, George noticed that tiny burrs from plants had stuck to his clothes and his dog's fur. He looked closely at the burrs under a microscope and saw that they had tiny hooks. These hooks clung onto loops in the fabric. This gave him the idea to create a new kind of fastener.

WHAT IS VELCRO?

Velcro is a special material made of two parts: one side has tiny hooks, and the other side has tiny loops. When pressed together, the hooks and loops stick, creating a strong bond. Velcro can be easily opened and closed, making it very useful. Velcro is now used all over the world. It is found in clothes, shoes, bags, and even in space suits for astronauts. The invention is simple, but it has made life easier in many ways.

WHEN DID HE PASS AWAY?

George de Mestral passed away on 8 February 1990 in Lausanne, Switzerland. His invention, Velcro, continues to be used every day by millions of people. George de Mestral's creativity and curiosity turned a small idea from nature into something that changed the world.

FIND OUT MORE...

Facts about George de Mestral

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. When and where was George de Mestral born?
2. What inspired George de Mestral to invent Velcro?
3. What did George see under a microscope when he looked at the burrs?
4. What are the two parts of Velcro, and how do they work?
5. Why is Velcro important and where is it used?