

Name _____

Barbara McClintock: A Trailblazer in Genetics

Short Answer Key

1. Barbara McClintock's early education and research at Cornell University prepared her by fostering her passion for genetics and providing the foundation for her groundbreaking work in the field.
2. The discovery of transposons, or "jumping genes," revealed that genes are not fixed entities but can move within an organism's DNA. This discovery revolutionized our understanding of genetic inheritance and regulation.
3. McClintock's research on maize resistance factors showed how genes could be activated or inactivated, influencing the plant's ability to resist diseases. This contributed to our understanding of genetic regulation and adaptability.
4. Initially, Barbara McClintock faced skepticism and resistance from the scientific community, but her persistence and dedication eventually led to recognition and acclaim for her discoveries.
5. Barbara McClintock's Nobel Prize in 1983 elevated her status and solidified her legacy as a pioneering geneticist.

