

# Alexander Fleming

... was a *Scottish bacteriologist and Nobel Prize winner, best known for his discovery of penicillin.*

## # 1 Birth and education

- was born in Ayrshire on 6 August 1881
- son of a farmer
- seven brothers and sisters
- moved to London at the age of 13

## # 2 Work before penicillin

- always wanted to become a doctor
- 1901: worked at St Mary's Hospital
- discovered lysozyme, an enzyme

## # 3 His accidental discovery

- discovered one of the most powerful of all antibiotics: penicillin
- 1928: accidental discovery: penicillin  
(*works against many kinds of bacteria and is mostly safe for the human body*)
- 1929: published his work, did not continue this research
- in the 1930s: other scientists mass-produce penicillin
- used to cure many infections during World War II
- 1945: Fleming get Nobel Prize for Medicine

## # 4 End of his life

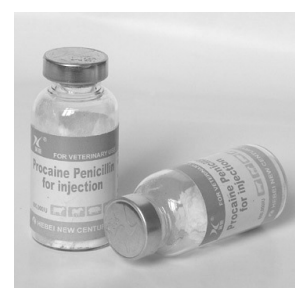
- spent the rest of his career at St. Mary's Hospital
- March 1955: death, because of a heart attack



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"Nature makes penicillin; I just found it."

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## Sources:

- [http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic\\_figures/fleming\\_alexander.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/fleming_alexander.shtml)
- <http://www.sjsu.edu/depts/Museum/flemin.html>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander\\_Fleming](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_Fleming)
- <http://www.aleks-blog.de/category/schule/>
- Alexander Fleming and the Story of Penicillin (Mitchell Lane Publishers)