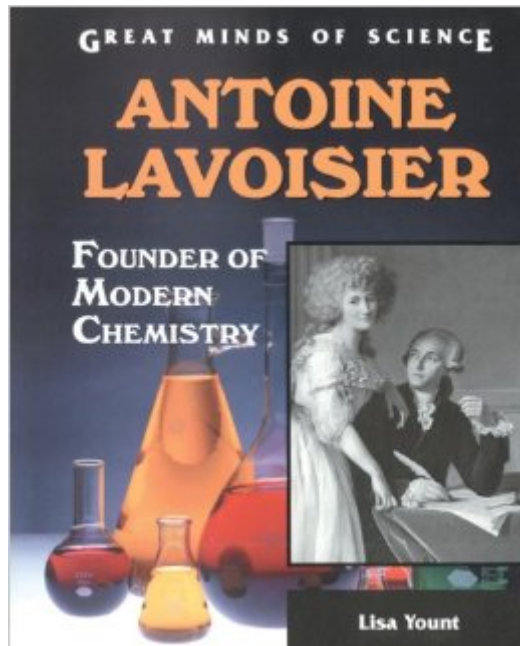


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# Antoine Lavoisier: Founder Of Modern Chemistry (Great Minds Of Science)



## Synopsis

Profiles the life of the Frenchman who is considered the founder of modern chemistry and biochemistry, because of his discovery of oxygen and his work on combustion and respiration.

## Book Information

Series: Great Minds of Science

Library Binding: 128 pages

Publisher: Enslow Publishers (April 1, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0894907859

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Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 7.9 x 0.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #525,441 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #73 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Chemistry](#) #119 in [Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Inventions & Inventors](#) #345 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Science & Technology](#)

Age Range: 9 and up

Grade Level: 4 and up

## Customer Reviews

The book contains 128 pages, with 20 black and white illustrations, and one map of Europe, with an emphasis on France (I love maps). The pages are semi-glossy, and the reproductions are quite good (not blurry), with good contrast. The author starts by setting up an inviting context, namely that recipes for cooking cakes use ingredients and steps in the same way that procedures in chemistry use ingredients and steps. Then, the book touches on the scientific problems facing chemists at the time, e.g., inability to make any predictions in chemistry due to lack of knowledge of constituents of chemical compounds, and due to inconsistent naming of various chemical compounds. Three pages are spent on Lavoisier's childhood and schooling (pages 14-16). His first discovery is disclosed as the dehydration and rehydration of gypsum (plaster). His second accomplishment was a cost/benefit analysis of street lamps, comparing oils and candles (pages 18-19). We also learn about Lavoisier's wife, Marie Anne, who translated English chemistry papers into French, and illustrated Lavoisier's books. Also, there is a reproduction of Jacques Louis David's oil painting of Lavoisier with

Marie.Lisa Yount is careful to include bits of local color here and there. In describing a geology trip with Jean Guettard, she writes, "One night he and Guettard had to sleep in a smelly barn filled with onions." More local color occurs in a 3-page narrative on mesmerism (pages 62): "Music played in the background. People sat around a tub full of bottles of water that was supposed to be magnetized. They all held hands. Iron rods stuck out of the tub. Mesmer's assistant moved a wand over the people.

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