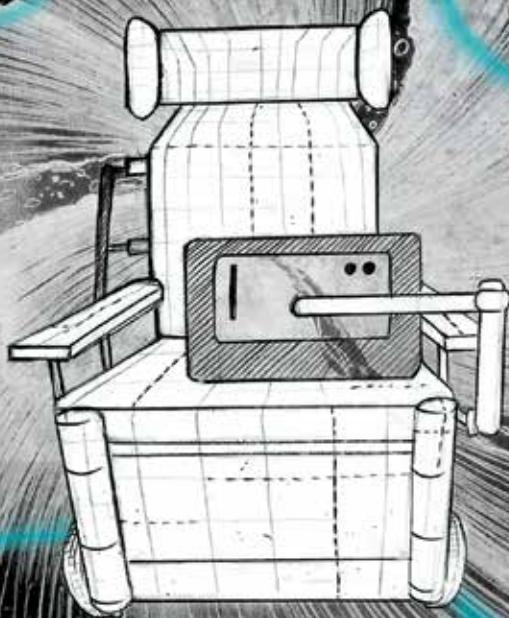


Adapted by Ingenio

TWELVE IDEAS YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT STEPHEN WILLIAM HAWKING

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¿Where do we come from? ¿How did the universe begin? ¿Why is the universe the way it is? ¿How will it end? These are four questions that Stephen Hawking wants you to answer. To help you do it we are inviting you to know him.

1 Our guest this time is a physicist, cosmologist and divulgator scientific who was born in Oxford, England, on January 8, 1942.

2 His parents were Isabel and Frank Hawking. Frank his father was a biological researcher who left London with his family in order to look for a safer place because of the World War II. Stephen also has two younger sisters Philippa, Mary and one adopted brother Edward.

3 Hawking went to St Albans high school for girls which admitted boys up to 10 years old after that he went to St Albans School for boys. He was a good student but not outstanding.

4 Hawking, advised by his teacher wanted mathematics as his major when he was cursing his last two years of school. But his father convinced him to study chemistry.

5 In March 1959 Hawking was accepted and granted a scholarship to study Natural Sciences at Oxford University: later at College he took physics as his mayor field of studies.

6 There he discovered that his interests were centered in thermodynamics, relativity and quantum mechanics. In sports he also took part of the rowing team; sport which he said encouraged him to continue in college.

7 After his degree from Oxford in 1962, he graduated From Cambridge University and obtained a doctorate in physics in 1966. After that he has reached more than dozen honorary degrees.

8 When he was 21 years old, he was diagnosed with motor neuron disease (Lou Gehrig's disease). Due to his illness his physical condition has been deteriorating, but he has always continued with his scientific projects as a researcher and writer.

9 His book A Brief History of Time which was published in 1988. Broke sales records, and is settled in the Guinness Book of World Records 1998. The paperback edition was published on April 6, 1995 and was number one best-seller in three days.

10 The book George's Secret Key to the Universe, is a children's book designed to explain theoretical physics easily, was written by Hawking and his daughter, Lucy, and it was published in 2007 with characters similar to those that take part in the Hawking family.

11 He wanted to show to the public his interest in spaceflight and the potential of people with disabilities, in 2007 he participated in zero-gravity flight in a Vomit Comet, he also made further appearances in animated as The Simpsons and Futurama and the TV show The Big Bang Theory.

12 Movies, documentaries and TV shows had been made: The Secrets of the Universe (BBC); A Brief History of Time; The Universe of Stephen Hawking; and The paradox of Hawking - (Horizon (BBC TV series)); among others.

If you want to read more about our character you can search in the library or in internet for books like: History of time: from the big bang to black holes or The Brief History of the nature of space and time; The Universe in a Nutshell; God created the numbers: the mathematicians discovers that changed the history; and The whole theory: the origin and destiny of the universe.

*This twelve ideas about Stephen William Hawking's life, were the result of an exhaustive seek from different references of public knowledge. The text was elaborated, proved and approved by the Editorial Committee of the **Ingenio** Magazine.