

CARL LINNAEUS



In 1707, Carl Linnaeus was born in a small town in the south of Sweden. His father is a Lutheran pastor and a good gardener. At school, he isn't a very good student, but he loves everything concerning nature.

His parents want him to become a pastor like his father, but the teachers don't agree with them. In 1728, Carl goes to the University of Uppsala, the best school in Sweden.

Three years later, Linnaeus travels to Lapland and other remote areas of Sweden to collect rare plants. He publishes detailed accounts about his trips.

In 1741, Linnaeus becomes a professor at the University of Uppsala. He is responsible of the botanical garden and at the same time he teaches botany and natural history. Students love him and come from all over the Europe to listen to his lessons. He dies in 1778 at the age of seventy-one.

He creates the modern system of naming organisms called **binomial nomenclature**. Linnaeus identifies about 7,700 plants and gives each one a scientific, latin name. He does the same thing for about 4,400 animals. Those names are still in use today, for example *Bellis perennis* L. (L.=Linnaeus).

Linnaeus also creates a **classification system**. He divides plants and animals into kingdoms and other groups based on observable characteristics.



Key words:

agree: essere d'accordo

account: resoconto

kingdoms: regni