

MICROSCOPIC SCIENCE CHRONOLOGY

1590

First Compound Microscope

Hans and Zacharias Janssen create the first tube-based magnifying device.

1665

Discovery of the Cell

Robert Hooke observes cork tissue and coins the term "cell."

1674

Living Microorganisms

Antonie van Leeuwenhoek discovers "animalcules" in pond water using high-quality lenses.

1838

Cell Theory Foundation

Schleiden and Schwann propose that all plants and animals are composed of cells.

1931

Electron Microscopy

Ernst Ruska and Max Knoll build the first transmission electron microscope (TEM).

1981

Scanning Tunneling Microscope

Gerd Binnig and Heinrich Rohrer enable the visualization of individual atoms.

2014

Super-Resolution Fluorescence

Nobel Prize awarded for overcoming the diffraction limit of light microscopy.