

The "Higgs Boson" is often "in the news."

- On the 4th of July, 2012, scientists at CERN - in Europe - announced they *may* have found this particle following a collision in the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) near Geneva.
- On the 14th of March, 2013, CERN announced that the particle discovered the previous summer is "[looking more and more like a Higgs boson...](#)"
- On the 8th of October, 2013, the [Nobel-Prize Committee](#) announced that [Dr. Peter Higgs](#) and [Dr. Francois Englert](#) would [share the Nobel Prize in Physics](#) for their work on the "Higgs Boson" particle.

What, exactly, is the "Higgs Boson" - and - [why do we care about it?](#) This video, narrated by [Professor Daniel Whiteson](#), uses an animated explanation (by [Jorge Cham](#)) to answer both of those questions. Move the video to 0:36 to see the animation.

For a deeper explanation of the Higgs Boson - and the "Standard Model" on which it is based - have a look at this [illustrated guide](#) from "Particle Adventure" (produced by [Berkeley National Laboratory](#)).

Professor Stephen Hawking also provides a bit more [background on Higgs-Boson](#) (and its significance):

In the early 60s, theorists were struggling to understand why particles have mass. Peter Higgs and Francois Englert proposed a mechanism called symmetry breaking. This mechanism also predicted a massive particle, the Higgs boson. The discovery last year at Cern of a particle with the correct properties confirms this prediction and is a triumph for theory.

Following the Higgs-Boson announcement, in March of 2013, scientists publicly wondered whether the recent particle discovery will aid in the [search for "dark matter."](#) For a quick overview of "[dark matter](#)," see another illustration from "[Particle Adventure](#)."

See, also:

[Namesake \(and background\) of "Boson" Particles](#)

Credits:

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<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Higgs-Boson-Animated-Explanation1>

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