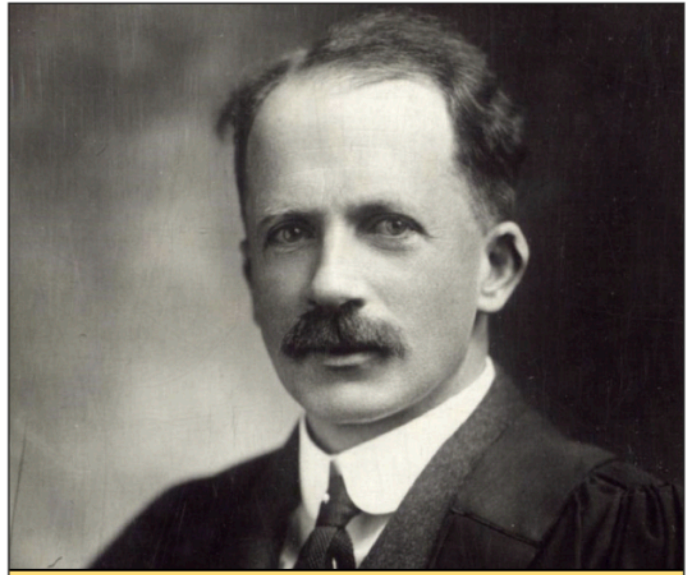


STEM Teams: The Discovery of Insulin



The bodies of people with Type 1 diabetes can't make insulin. But people die without it. Frederick Banting, a Canadian surgeon, thought he could find a way to produce insulin in the lab. But he couldn't do it alone.



Banting contacted Professor John McLeod, at the University of Toronto. McLeod was a biochemist and agreed to help Banting and gave him a lab to work in.



McLeod recruited Charles Best, a medical student, to help Banting. After 6 months work they successfully treated a diabetic dog with the insulin they'd made.



Finally, biochemist James Collip made the insulin pure enough for human use. The team were able to treat their first patient, 14 year old Leonard Wilson, in 1922. Diabetes was no-longer a death-sentence!