

A portrait of Anton van Leeuwenhoek, a Dutch biologist. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a brown robe over a white ruffled shirt. He has long, curly brown hair and is looking slightly to the right. He is holding a small object, possibly a microscope or a piece of glass, in his right hand. In the background, there is a globe and some papers.

Today in History

October 24, 1632

▲ **Anton van Leeuwenhoek, Dutch biologist, was born. He was the first person to observe bacteria and made numerous discoveries concerning blood circulation**

1922: The Irish parliament adopted a constitution for an Irish Free State

1952: U.S. Republican presidential candidate Dwight D. Eisenhower pledged to end the Korean War

1962: The U.S. naval blockade of Cuba precipitated by the missile crisis officially began

1997: U.S. President Bill Clinton predicted that China's move towards a market economy would eventually bring about political change