

Democritus & Aristotle



In the beginning

■ Democritus

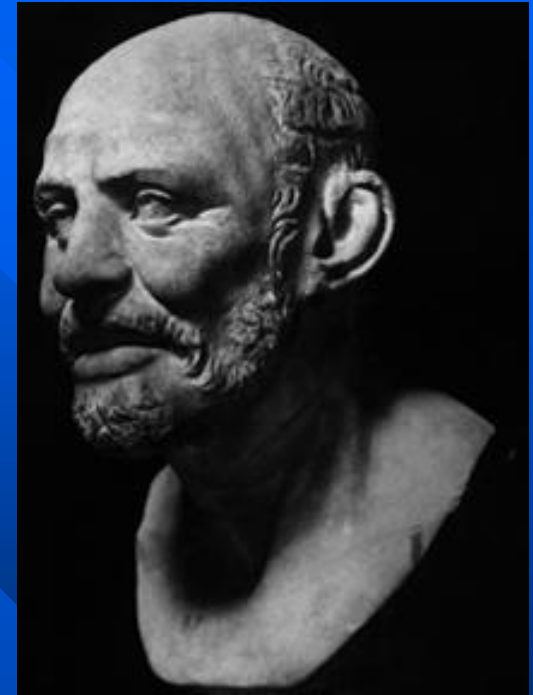
- Born 460 b.c.
- Born in Abdera, Thrace, Greece
- Noble family
- Wealthy
- Nicknamed the laughing philosopher
- After his father died, he went looking for wisdom

■ Aristotle

- Born 384 b.c.
- Born in Stagirus, Macedonia, Greece
- Father named Nicomachus, who was a doctor.
- His father became the personal doctor of Amyntas III (the King of Macedonia)
- Taught Alexander the Great (grandson of Amyntas III)

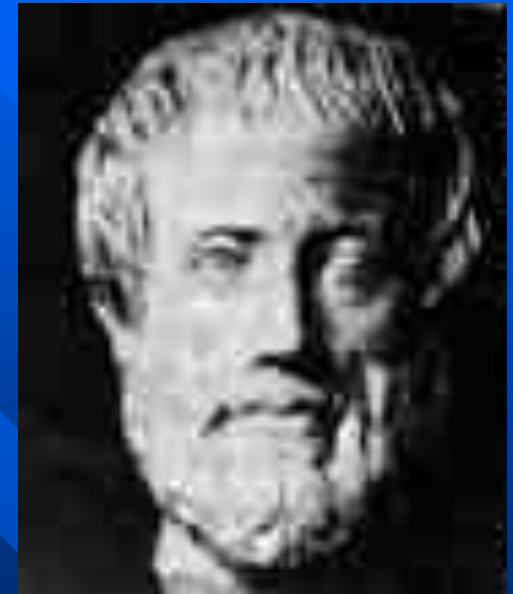
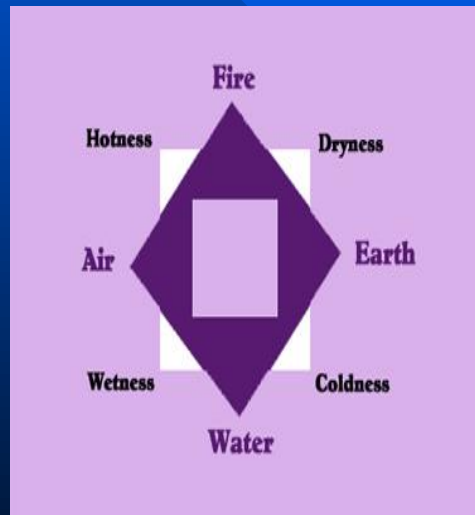
Democritus's Theory

- Thought that all things were made of tiny, invisible, indestructible particles, called atoms (now known as the Atomic Theory)
- Thought atoms varied in size, shape and weight



Aristotle's Theory

- Opposed the Atomic Theory
- Thought matter was made of air, water, fire, and Earth



At the end

- Democritus died in 370 b.c.
- Died in Abdera
- The date of his discovery is unknown
- Aristotle died in 332 b.c.
- Died in Chalcis, Euboea, Greece
- The date of his discovery is unknown

Conclusion

- Democritus (460 b.c.-370 b.c.) thought that all matter was made of tiny invisible and indestructible particles called atoms.
- Aristotle, (384 b.c.-332 b.c.) however, deeply opposed this view. He thought that matter was made of four elements - air, water, fire, and earth.
- During the Middle Ages, Aristotle's ideas were adopted as dogma by the Catholic church. At that time, supporters of atomic theory could be executed for heresy.