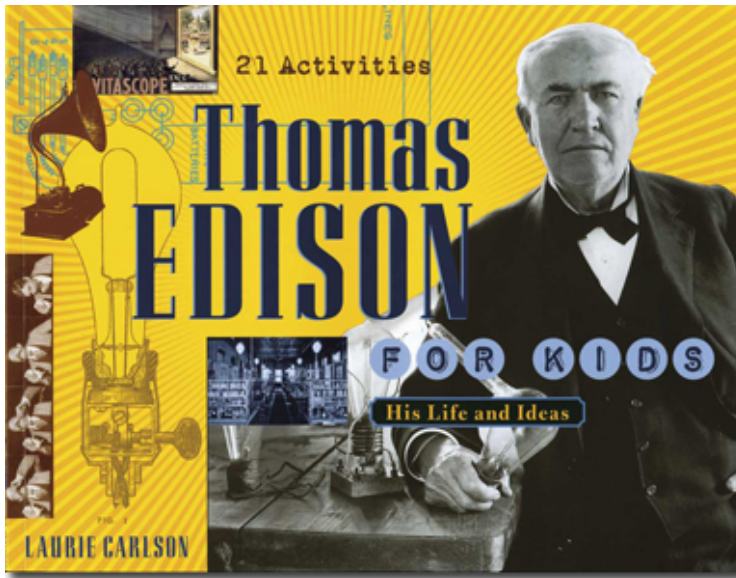


## Thomas Edison's Inventions

Lesson Title: *Thomas Edison for Kids*

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Use the list of Edison's major inventions on page 138 of *Thomas Edison for Kids* and your report from the hands-on activity to discuss these questions. (You also could visit Thomas A. Edison and the Menlo Park Laboratory: <http://www.thehenryford.org/exhibits/edison/inventions.asp>.)

Why does someone become an inventor?

Thomas Edison stated that, "My desire is to do everything within my power to further free the people from drudgery and create the largest possible measures of happiness and prosperity." Discuss why you think people might want to invent something new. Do you think Edison's inventions made people's lives easier? In which ways?

What were some of the many ways that Thomas Edison approached inventing?

Have you ever invented anything? What could you invent that would make your life better? What approach would you take to invent something?

## Thomas Edison's Inventions

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How have the inventions of Edison influenced the course of history? For example, how did the battery affect transportation?

How would agriculture and manufacturing have been different without the conveyor belt system?

What would modern communication be like without the telephone?

How would education and entertainment be different?

What is the difference between science and technology? What are some of the similarities between the two?

What are some of the ways in which science helps technology? Technology helps science?