

- Edison is considered to be the greatest inventor in modern times.
- He earned the nickname, “Wizard of Menlo Park” (New Jersey), where he built the first industrialized research laboratory in 1876.
- His 1,093 inventions have greatly changed the lives of nearly all people living across the world.
- His work includes improving the incandescent electric light bulb and inventing the phonograph and the kinoscope, or a small box for viewing moving pictures or films.
- Edison believed in hard work and sometimes worked twenty hours a day.
- Edison was quoted as saying, "Genius is one percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration."
- Not all of Edison’s inventions were successful. Among many of his failed efforts: trying to use cement to build things and finding a practical way to mine iron ore.
- In tribute to this important American, electric lights in the United States were dimmed for one minute on October 21, 1931, a few days after his death.

Information on this sheet is drawn from these resources:

- Thomas Alva Edison as a Scientist and Inventor (<http://sln.fi.edu/franklin/inventor/edison.html>)
- Meet Amazing Americans: Thomas Alva Edison (<http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/aa/edison#more>)
- Zoom Inventors and Inventions: Thomas Alva Edison (<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/inventors/>)