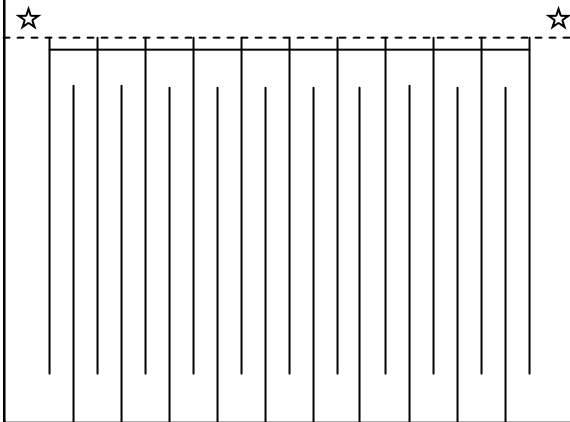






MAKE A HOLE IN A FILECARD BIG ENOUGH TO STEP THROUGH!

EDISON'S "RE-THINKING THE HOLE"



Here's the trick I showed you about looking at a hole from a different angle. You can show it to your family. Practice first though! Make a few copies of the card at left and learn the cuts so you can do them without lines. Then do it with a plain 3x5 filecard. It's a "corker!"

- Step #1  Fold top half behind bottom half along dotted line.
- Step #2  Cut all of the up and down solid lines exactly as they appear at left. Notice a pattern?
- Step #3  Cut the last solid line that crosses right to left across the top of the folded paper. The two halves should still be attached at the two stars
- Step #4  Carefully pull apart zig-zag loop of paper. Stretch it as far as you can without ripping it. Step through hole to the amazement of your friends!



THOMAS EDISON:

INVENTOR, LECTURER, PRANKSTER

An Ancillary Worksheet From
Patrick Garner's HISTORY'S ALIVE!

347 N. Fullerton Avenue
Upper Montclair, NJ 07043
Phone: 973.420.5268
www.historysalive.com

Thanks so much for welcoming me into your school!

You know, I only lasted about three months in school myself. The teacher claimed I was "addled!" I think I just asked too many questions for him. My mother, a former teacher, taught me at home using the books from my father's own library. When I started working on the Detroit-Port Huron railroad I spent every free minute I had in the Detroit Public Library. Education is one of the most important gifts you can give yourself, no matter where you get it!

Remember: A genius is often a talented person who has simply done all of his homework!

Your Friend,



AN ANCILLARY WORKSHEET FROM PATRICK GARNER'S HISTORY'S ALIVE! GR.3 & UP



THE EDISON NEWS



"There are no mistakes...as long as you learn from them!"

EDISON VISITS SCHOOLS ACROSS THE U.S.!

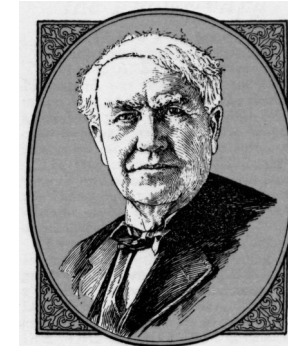
Elementary school students across the country are being treated to a visit by the "Wizard of Menlo Park" himself, Thomas Alva Edison. Mr. Edison has begun a series of school lectures throughout New York & New Jersey and other states across the United States of America!

Having invented such marvels as the phonograph, the incandescent light bulb and the motion picture camera, Mr. Edison, a long-time resident of West Orange NJ, has established himself as one of New Jersey's most famous citizens. Mr. Edison is recognized as the world record-holder of 1093 United States Patents.

Important discoveries and events in Mr. Edison's long career as the

world's preeminent inventor were recounted first-hand in an assembly lecture. Mr. Edison then elaborated on the lessons those discoveries and events had taught him.

The guest lecturer, who some say "invented the Twentieth Century," demonstrated models of his light bulb and his phonograph.



THE WISDOM OF THE WIZARD

WORK HARD & PLAY HARD "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration!"

THERE ARE NO MISTAKES...as long as you learn from them. "If I find 10,000 ways something won't work, I haven't failed....because every wrong attempt discarded is just one more step forward."

LOOK AT PROBLEMS FROM A NEW ANGLE "My deafness has been an asset to me always."

FIND SOMETHING YOU LOVE IN YOUR LIFE & DO IT YOUR WHOLE LIFE LONG "I always invent to obtain money to go on inventing."

THE LIFE OF THOMAS ALVA EDISON

- 1847 Born February 11 in Milan, Ohio
- 1854 Moves to Pt. Huron, MI
- 1859 Works as "candy butcher" on railroad
- 1863-1868 Travels as "tramp" telegraph operator
- 1868 Declares himself a full-time inventor
- 1875 Creates invention factory in Menlo Park, NJ
- 1877 Invents the phonograph
- 1879 Invents the incandescent lamp
- 1887 Moves invention factory to West Orange, NJ
- 1891 Invents motion picture camera
- 1900 Begins cement manufacturing after ten-year mining effort
- 1914 Fire destroys much of West Orange facility
- 1920-1930 Spends most of time as writer and lecturer
- 1931 Dies October 18 at the age of 84 in West Orange, NJ

“Just because something doesn't do what you planned it to do doesn't mean it's useless...”

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS I LEARNED IN MY LIFE WAS TO TURN ANY SEEMING MISTAKE OR DISABILITY INTO AN OPPORTUNITY.

Is there something about yourself that you think limits your success? Try and turn that "weakness" into a "strength," that negative quality into a positive quality.

Negative:

Positive:

EXAMPLE: Negative: I love basketball but I feel I'm too short to play. Positive: I can learn skills that use my height— play an “inside game.” I could manage a basketball team. I can try a different sport where my height is an advantage.

ALTHOUGH THE PHONOGRAPH AND LIGHT BULB WERE USEFUL, THEY WERE ALSO A LOT OF FUN.

Describe a problem in your life and then try to describe it from a new angle.:

PROBLEM: _____

NEW ANGLE: _____

SOLUTION: _____

EXAMPLE: My brother always bothers me when I'm doing my homework. NEW ANGLE: My brother has nothing better to do than bug me at homework time. SOLUTION: Do my homework at a different time, like when his favorite TV show is on.

AN IMPORTANT PART OF PROBLEM SOLVING IS BEING ABLE TO LOOK AT SOMETHING FROM A WHOLE NEW ANGLE.

Many of my inventions had to do with making life more fun. Think up your own invention that would be just plain fun.

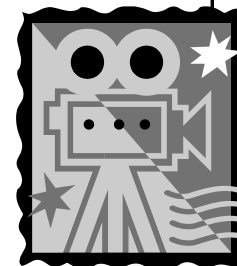
“There are no rules here! We're just trying to accomplish something!”

“I never allow myself to be discouraged under any circumstances!”

EDISON TRIVIA

1. The first successful light bulb used a filament made of a) platinum wire, b) bamboo or c) cotton thread.
2. The first words ever recorded on a phonograph were a) The Pledge of Allegiance, b) Mary Had a Little Lamb or c) Who Let the Dogs Out?
3. You can find Edison cement in a) poured cement houses, b) furniture, c) Yankee Stadium or d) all of the above.
4. Genius is a) just being lucky, b) hereditary, c) one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration.
5. The first recorded music came as a) cylinders, b) tapes, c) flat discs or d) MP3's.
6. The very first movies were made in a) Hollywood, b) Technicolor or c) New Jersey.
7. The telephone was invented by a) Thomas Edison, b) Alexander Graham Bell or c) Henry Ford.

ANSWERS: 1. c; 2. ; 3. d; 4. c; 5. a; 6. c; 7. b, but I made it work better!



“I find out what the world needs, then I go ahead and try to invent it.”

My very first patented invention was an electronic vote recorder for the Massachusetts's state government. Only problem was...nobody wanted it! From then on I decided to invent only items that actually filled a need.

Try to list three problems that you think really need to be solved by an invention. Don't limit your imagination but make sure people need your help. Then pick one and dream up your own “problem-solver.”

Problem 1: _____

Problem 2: _____

Problem 3: _____

Your invention would be _____

How would it solve this problem? _____

