



Dear Educator,

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The “**Thomas Edison**” unit offers **13 pages**.

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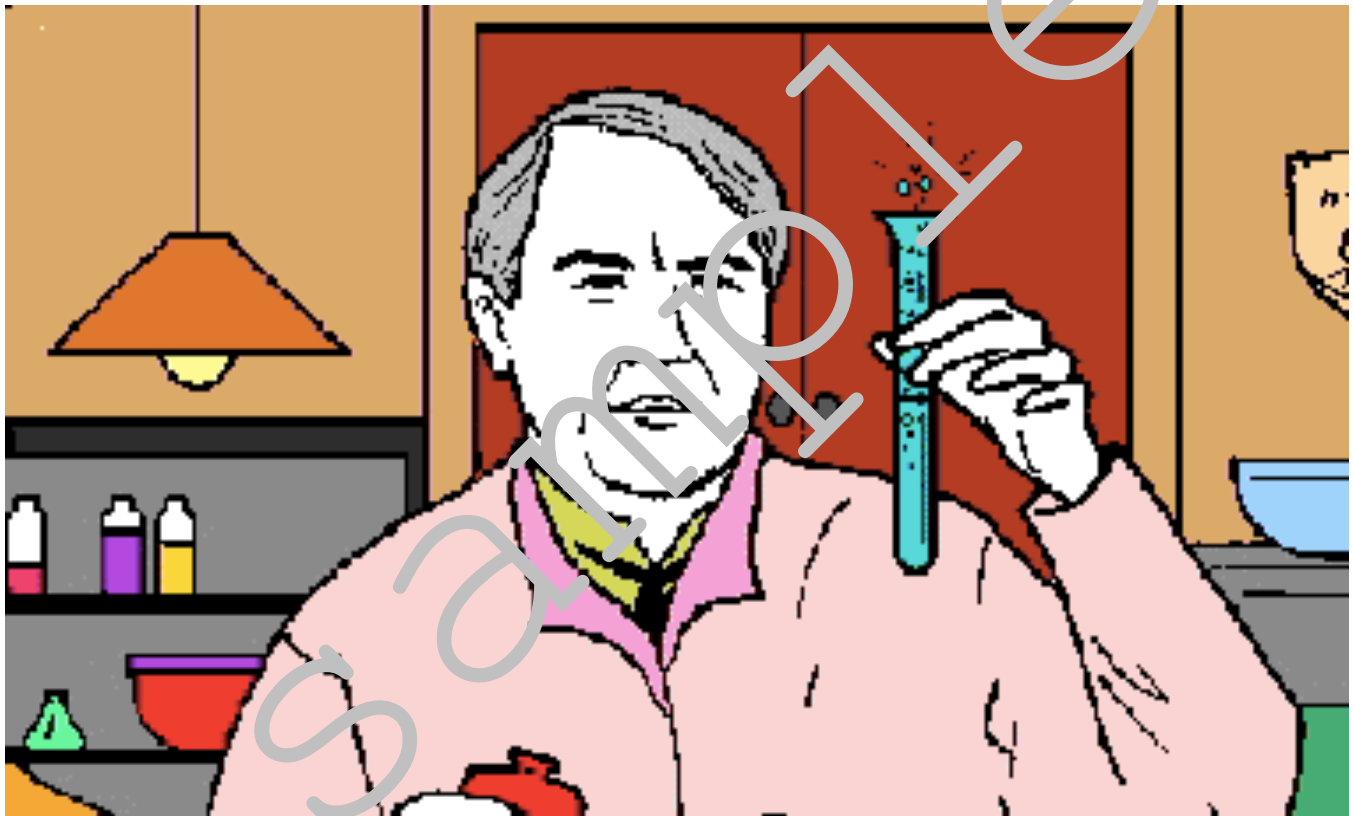
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Thomas Edison

The Great Inventor
1847-1931



Thomas Edison

Thomas Alva Edison was born in Milan, Ohio, on February 11, 1847. His family called him Alva and Al. There were seven children in his family. Al was the youngest. When Alva was seven years old his family moved to Michigan.

Alva went to school in Port Huron, Michigan for three months. One of his teachers said that he was a slow student and not very smart. This made his mother angry. She told the schoolmaster that Alva was intelligent.

Alva's mother took him out of school. His mother taught him part time at home. Later, he went to a private school for a short while. When he was eleven years old he went to a public school in Port Huron.

**Thomas Alva Edison loved to learn and to experiment with things.
He wanted to know how things worked and he liked to try to make new things.
After a while, everything Alva learned was from reading books and from experimenting.**

Color the pictures



Thomas Edison

Thomas Edison received his first patent from the United States Patent Office on June 1, 1869. It was for a vote recording machine. Tom was unable to sell this invention because there was no need for it. From that time on, Tom made sure that anything he invented could be used by many people.

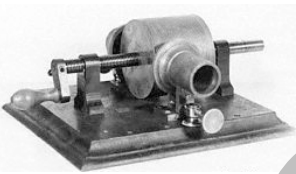
Tom had some more hard times, but he didn't let it stop him. He soon moved to New York. During a crisis, Tom fixed a stock market machine that belonged to Dr. Samuel Laws. Dr. Laws gave Tom a high paying job with his company.

One day Thomas Edison demonstrated one of his inventions to a group of engineers. The man who headed the Gold & Stock Telegraph Company, General Lefferts, offered to buy Tom's invention. Tom could not believe it when he was offered forty thousand dollars for his invention.



Thomas Edison spent the forty thousand dollars on his first shop, and equipment. He hired men to work with him in his shop, which was located in Newark, New Jersey. He had an order from Western Union Telegraph for twelve hundred of his stock ticker machines.

Two of Tom's famous inventions are the phonograph and the motion picture camera. Look up information about one of these inventions, and write a little about it here.





Thomas Edison

CRISS CROSS

Can you fit these words into the criss cross?
Use a pencil so you can erase if you need to.

jobs

telegraph

patent

train

work

sound

light

deaf

