The History Day Paper

At a time when the world remained largely dark after the sunset each day, Thomas Edison explored ways to use electricity to light it up. Although he encountered over a thousand failed attempts, Edison refused to give up and invented the first successful electric light bulb, exchanging the old world of darkness for a new one, where light can shine 24 hours a day.

Imagine your winter without electricity.You wouldn't be able to turn on the heat to stay warm. You would have to heat water on the wood stove just to take a nice hot bath. You would have to light oil lamps just to see what you were doing. Wow. that sounds like hard work, but it also sounds like fun. What it would be like to store food without electricity. You wouldn't be able to grab a snack out of the refridgerator. You might have a wooden box with a big chunk of ice inside to keep food fresh.You wouldn't be able to watch TV shows, play video games, or go to the movies.You might play video games outside with your friends and neighbors, read a book, or wtight a letter. You and your friends might learn to play musical instruments so you could form a band. Imagine your summer without electricity. You wouldn't be able to turn on a fan to cool off or run water in the kitchen far a cool drink. You might jump in a stream or lake to cool off.You might pump water from the well for your drink.

Back then in 1752 there was a man named Benjamin Franklin who was curious about lightning. He made an experiment to prove that it was electrical. One day he went out

into a thunderstorm and tied a medal key to the bottom of the kite and as he thought it would work, lightning from the flowed down the string from the kite and gave Franklin an electrical shock. Franklin did not die after he received the electrical shock, but his turned out to be one of the most important experiments of all time.

After electricity was invented, At age thirteen Thomas Edison took a job as a newsboy, selling newspapers and candy on the local railroad that ran through Port Huron Detroit. He seems to have spent much time reading scientific, and technical books, and also had the opportunity at this time to learn how to operate a telegraph. By the time he was sixteen, Edison was proficient enough to work as a telegrapher full time. This rapid growth gave Edison and others like him a chance to travel, see the country, and gain experience.

Edison found creative ways to work around not hearing well. In his lab, he would bite the phonograph so he could feel the vibrations of the sounds. During meetings, Edison's helper would tap on his leg in Morse code to let him know what other people were saying. You may be surprised to learn that the man who invented the phonograph could not enjoy his invention. Thomas Edison began to lose his hearing when he was young. His hearing grew worse as he got older. He once wrote, "I have not heard a bird sing since I was twelve years old." No one knows for sure why Edison lost his hearing. His father, Samuel, and his son Charles both had problems with their hearing too. When Thomas Edison was seven, he got very sick. That illness may have affected his hearing.Edison himself used to say that he lost his hearing when someone picked him up by the ears to keep him from falling off a train.Edison was not completely deaf, but

people had to shout to talk to him. He thought that being hard of hearing helped with his work. He was able to pay close attention to his experiments because he couldn't hear noises and talk. Edison still worked with his improvements.

Edison dreamed of adding sound to his pictures. He attached a phonograph to the movie machine and invented the first talking movie. Thomas Edison and his team of inventors were the first to make a movie camera.

With this invention, people could watch a movie when they looked into a machine through a small peephole. This was great, but only one person at a time could watch the movie. A movie camera is like a regular camera, except that it takes a lot of pictures very quickly. Cameras take pictures by capturing light. Now you know why there's a flash of light every time you get your picture taken. Edison also made movies. Edison needed light from the sun to make the movies, so he built a house on wheels with a roof that opened up. When Edison was making a movie, the house could be moved around to catch the sun.Edison's movies were very short. They ran for only a few seconds. The longest movies lasted half a minute. Count to thirty, and that will tell you how long these early movies were. People liked to watch movies about dancers. They were very popular. One movie showed a man sneezing. Another one showed two cats fighting with each other. Movies now are very different!

Edison worked in a number of cities throughout the United States before arriving in Boston in 1868. During the last two years of his life Edison was in increasingly poor health. Edison spent more time away from the laboratory, working instead at Glenmont. Trips to the family vacation home in Fort Myers, Florida became longer. Edison was

past eighty and suffering from a number of ailments. In August 1931. Edison collapsed at Glenmont. Essentially house bound from that point, Edison steadily declined until at 3:21 am on October 18, 1931 the great man died.Thomas Edison was finally able to produce a reliable, long lasting light bulb. During the last two years Many inventors and scientists tried to find a way to use electrical power in order to make light. Prior to the light bulb, folks burned oil lamps or used manufactured natural gas for illumination, a rather dangerous way to provide illumination. Thomas Edison serious incandescent light bulb research began in 1878..Throughout his career, Edison worked on many improvements to his signature invention, an invention that literally changed the way we live after dark.

By the end 1880s, small electrical stations based on Edison's designs were in a number of cities, but each station was able to power only a few city blocks. By the 1930, the percentage of rural homes with electricity had risen to 25%.

Today nearly anyone is fortunate enough to have electric power at home, work, and at school.In order to maintain this constant and reliable resource, it is im portant that we use it wisely every single day.

Electricity existed ever since the world was created. It has been part of this world for a long time, and over time, we have been able to use it in our advantage. Electricity changes the way we live and has changed the world forever.He did not give up building the electric light bulb. There are ideas being developed, even today to change the world and while they may not be, as earth shattering as electricity, they still require the support of others to achieve success.

Inventors began to design practical telephone, typewriter, sewing machine, all came of age during the 19th century.Electric lights became cheap, safe, and convenient to use and the public and commercial concerns installed them in rapidly increasing numbers.Today our world is filled with powered devices than we can pug in pretty much anywhere. And we have the lightbulb to thanks for it. In the morning, there is sunlight. But in the night, people use electricity to do tasks.the invention of light bulb allows us to work at night. It allows us to save money on candles/oil for light and much safer to use.Also no need to wait for daylight to do all the work that we wish to do. We can work indoors in bad weather, even on small detailed tasks, and homes can be built with smaller/fewer windows to conserve energy.

We can make plans to complete them, especially fine detailed work that requires clear sight. People can work all hours of the day and night, keeping hospital,or medical services, and police, or security services available to those who need it. Instead of relying on candlelight and oil lamps, the light bulb allowed us, for the first time, to light our houses and streets in way that was resistant to the elements.

Incandescent lamps are still in regularly use in our homes today. Within 25 years, millions of people around the world had installed electrical lighting in their homes.The easy-to--use technology was such an improvement over the old ways that the world never looked back.

Thomas (Alva) Edison was one of America's most important and famous inventors. Edison was born into a time and place where there wasn't much technological advancements. His inventions helped a lot of things quickly change in the world. His

inventions contributed to many inventions today such as the night light, movies, had not been developed. But thanks to Edison when he had passed away on October 18, 1931 whole cities were lit up in electricity.

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