

Zero to Hero Theme Lesson (History)



ZERO TO HERO HISTORY

Lesson 2 To learn that perseverance is vital to achievement

You will need:-

- "If could invent one thing" template (provided)
- Story of Thomas Edison (provided)
- Images of Thomas Edison 1 and 2 (provided)
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- Lightbulb - more than one type, if possible

Thomas Edison

"Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration."



Sit together and have a light bulb for your student look at closely. Ask them what they notice about the bulb e.g. its size, its shape? What they see inside? What is beneath the glass part? Discuss their observations. If possible, look at different types of bulbs and talk about how some are more energy efficient than others. If you do not have any other bulbs, you can look at some images online.



Explain that we have a man called Thomas Edison to thank for the invention of the light bulb. Look at the images of him as a young and older man then read his story. Highlight how he persevered and never gave up, eventually succeeding in creating household things we now take for granted. He is respected for his perseverance, leading to his genius inventions.

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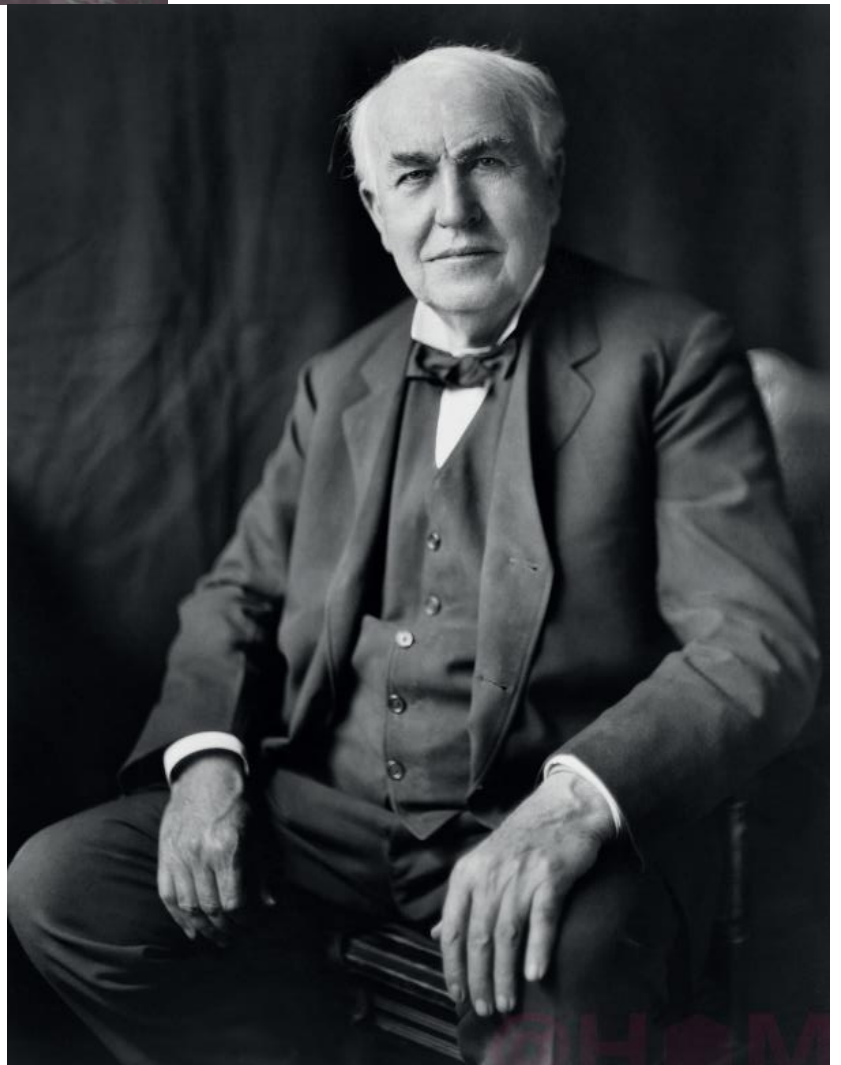
Your student should fill in the "If I could invent one thing to make the world a better place..." template. Encourage your student to be innovative and independent in their thinking.



Discuss the meaning of the Thomas Edison quotation and ask your student to explain how this was relevant to his work.

"Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration."

@HOME



ZERO TO HERO HISTORY ZERO TO HERO STORIES

Thomas Edison

Thomas Edison was born over 170 years ago on 11th February 1847 in Ohio, America. He started school but didn't do very well and so his mother decided she would teach him at home. It was this that began his love for experimenting and inventing. He set up his own laboratory at home when he was just 10 years old.

Unfortunately, when he was 12, the doctors discovered that he was partially deaf, but he didn't let this hold him back. He continued to work hard.

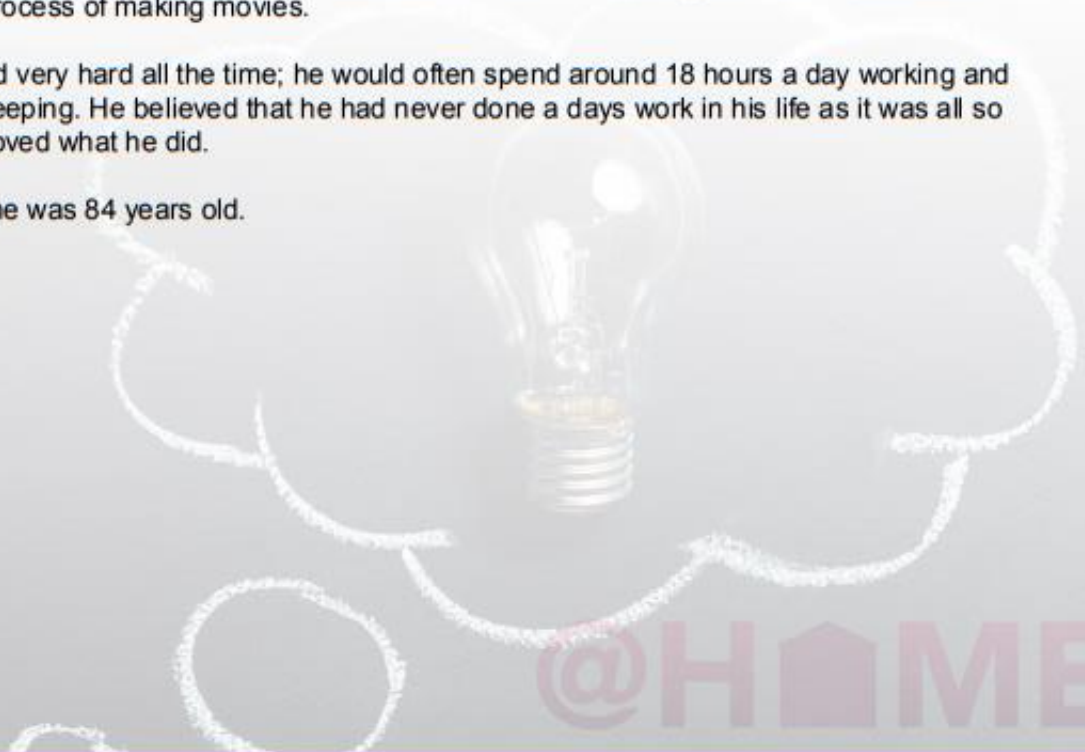
Thomas was an enterprising young boy, always trying to earn money. Whether it was selling sweets, vegetables or newspapers on a train. One day, whilst he was selling papers, he saved a young boy's life from a runaway train. The child's father rewarded him by training him to be a telegraph operator. It was this opportunity that led him to become interested in different ways of communicating. This was what linked most of his inventions.

Thomas had thousands of inventions, but many were rejected. He simply went back to his lab and worked on something else. He never gave up! Thomas is most famous for inventing the phonograph, a machine able to record and play back sound. He recorded himself reciting the nursery rhyme, 'Mary had a little lamb'.

The light bulb is probably the invention he is most famous for. He made the first electric light bulb to be used in the home and also made on/off switches for the lights, too. Another invention that made him famous was the motion picture. Thomas did a lot of work in creating the motion picture and helped in the process of making movies.

Thomas worked very hard all the time; he would often spend around 18 hours a day working and only 4 hours sleeping. He believed that he had never done a days work in his life as it was all so much fun. He loved what he did.

He died when he was 84 years old.





ZERO TO HERO
HISTORY
IF YOU COULD INVENT ONE THING

If I could invent one thing to make the world a better place it would be a:-

The reason why I would invent this is:-

Draw a picture of your invention

