

## THE TRIUMPH OF INDUSTRY

**Enrichment: Research****Inventions in the Hall of Fame**

Founded in 1973, the National Inventors Hall of Fame meets every year to honor a new group of inventors. To be considered for induction, an inventor must hold a U.S. patent and the invention must have benefited society and advanced science and technology. Inventors in the Hall of Fame include Orville Wright and Wilbur Wright for the airplane, Rudolf Diesel for the internal combustion engine, and more recently, Les Paul for the solid-body electric guitar.

**Your assignment:** Alone or with a partner, research inventions that you think should earn their creators a place in the National Inventors Hall of Fame. What makes these inventions worthy of this honor? Use the information you find to prepare a presentation that explains the development of each invention and its impact on society.

**Suggested Materials:** poster board to display images of inventions and information; glue, staples, markers and/or colored pencils to develop your display; note cards to organize your research

**Suggested procedures:**

1. Research inventions currently in the National Inventors Hall of Fame. How did these inventions help society? What was their impact? Use the chart on the next page to organize your research.
2. Find information about current and past inventions that you believe should be included in the Hall of Fame. Research their development and impact, and include these in the chart on the next page. Narrow your list of inventions to two or three that you want to present to the class.
3. Form arguments to support each invention's place in the Hall of Fame. Be prepared to answer your classmates' questions about the inventions' importance to society.
4. Prepare the poster board for your presentation. Display pictures of the inventions and the inventors, and provide brief biographies on the inventors on your poster board. A sample presentation is shown on the following page.
5. Practice your presentation. Remember to explain clearly why the inventions you selected belong in the Hall of Fame.

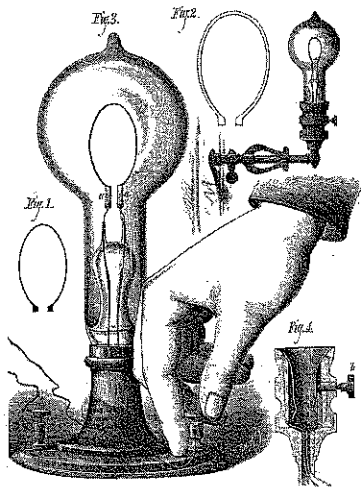

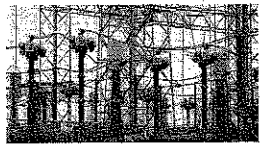


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**Inventions in the Hall of Fame**

*Directions: Use a chart like the one below to organize your research. Refer to the sample presentation provided for layout ideas for your presentation.*

Invention Name, Date	Inventor	Development of Invention	Invention's Impact
electric lamp, 1880	Thomas Edison	wanted to develop a safe electric lamp for homes to replace gas lights	electricity supplied to homes and businesses around the world

**Sample Presentation on Edison**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Invention</b></p>		 
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Biography</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Development</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Impact</b></p>  

*Thomas Edison, Library of Congress Edison's drawing for an electric lamp, ©Bettmann/CORBIS Photo of electric wires, ©Royalty-Free/CORBIS Photo of a power plant, ©Robert Llewellyn/CORBIS Cityscape at night, ©Jean-Pierre Lescourret/CORBIS Map of North American city lights, Science Source/Photo Researchers, Inc.*