

Thomas Edison

Third Grade
Activity: 5
Time: 1-2 Class Periods

General Description

As the teacher reads a story about Thomas Edison the students will create a concept map of the events, characteristics, inventions, and other facts about Edison. Concept webs are student's idea of how the information should be organized.

Objectives

Students will identify important contributions Thomas Edison made to history and modern life.
Students will write a paragraph about what they believe are the most important contributions made by Edison.

Arizona State Standards

SC03 S2C1 PO1 Identify how diverse people and/or cultures, past and present, have made important contributions to scientific innovations (e.g., John Muir [naturalist], supports Strand 4; Thomas Edison [inventor], supports Strand 5; Mae Jemison [engineer, physician, and astronaut], supports Strand 6; Edmund Halley [scientist], supports Strand 6)

R03 S3C1 PO3 Locate specific information by using organizational features (e.g., title, table of contents, headings, captions, bold print, key words, glossary, indices, italics, key words) in expository text.

W03 S3C2 PO2 Write an expository paragraph that contains:

- a. a topic sentence
- b. supporting details

Teacher Background

There are a variety of appropriate books that you can read about Thomas Edison. One that might be most useful is, "The Story of Thomas Alva Edison", by Margaret Cousins.

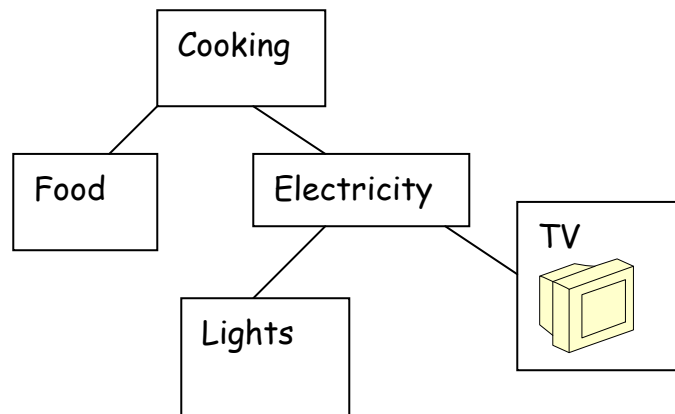
Materials (per student)

Butcher paper

Markers and colored pencils

Procedure/Exploration

1. Demonstrate how to construct a concept web on the board. Use a different concept than Edison.



2. Hand out the paper and have students put Edison's name in the center.
3. Explain to them that they will be creating their own concept map as you read the story to them. You will read the story more than once or you will re-read sections upon request.
4. Have students share their concept maps when they are done.
5. The students will use the concept maps to guide them as they write a paragraph about what they believe are the most important contributions Edison made.