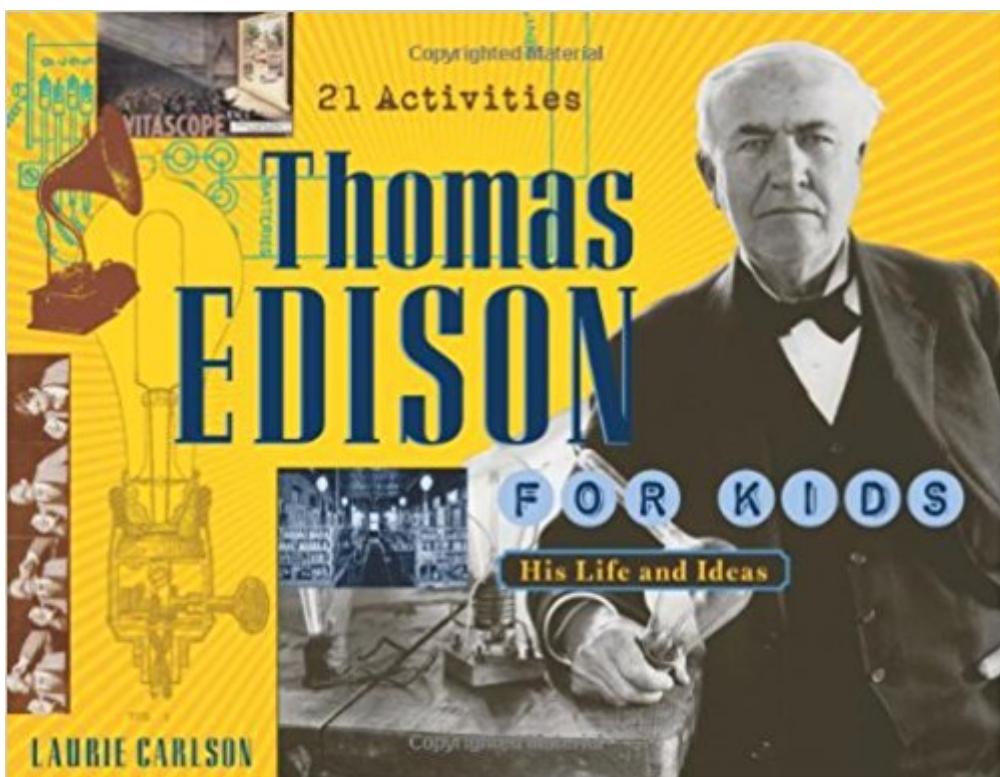


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# Thomas Edison For Kids: His Life And Ideas, 21 Activities (For Kids Series)



## **Synopsis**

Thomas Edison, one of the world's greatest inventors, is introduced in this fascinating activity book. Children will learn how Edison ushered in an astounding age of invention with his unique way of looking at things and refusal to be satisfied with only one solution to a problem. This book helps inspire kids to be inventors and scientists, as well as persevere with their own ideas. Activities allow children to try Edison's experiments themselves, with activities such as making a puppet dance using static electricity, manufacturing a switch for electric current, constructing a telegraph machine, manipulating sound waves, building an electrical circuit to test for conductors and insulators, making a zoetrope, and testing a dandelion for latex. In addition to his inventions and experiments, the book explores Edison's life outside of science, including his relationship with inventor Nikola Tesla, his rivalry with George Westinghouse, and his friendship with Henry Ford. A time line, glossary, and lists of supply sources, places to visit, and websites for further exploration complement this activity book.

## **Book Information**

Series: For Kids series

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Chicago Review Press (February 1, 2006)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #379,236 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in Children's Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Electricity & Electronics #90 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Inventions & Inventors #237 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Experiments & Projects

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

Grade 5-9  
Presented chronologically and always in a positive light, the inventor's life is described in considerable detail. Being the workaholic that he was, it's understandable that there's

little mention of his personal life once he moves out of his teens. Enough detail is given about his childhood that one senses the single-mindedness that drove his genius. However, with so much emphasis on Edison's many inventions and projects, one can easily get bogged down. Photographs, frequent diagrams, and sidebars add interesting insights. Short biographies of his peers, both friends and foes, are included. The activities tend to have text-heavy instructions and lack detailed diagrams. The explanation of atoms and their charges in Make an Electrically Charged Puppet Dance is inaccurate. Also, some of the activities become repetitious, particularly those showing the persistence of vision phenomenon used to achieve motion photography. Sources for science experiments, lists of related museums, and Web sites are appended. For Edison enthusiasts and invention fans, this book is a serviceable addition. Most libraries that own Brian Williams's Thomas Alva Edison (Heinemann Library, 2001) or Marfe Ferguson Delano's Inventing the Future (National Geographic, 2002) don't need it. —Carol S. Surges, McKinley Elementary School, Wauwatosa, WI Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Gr. 4-7. Carlson combines, with some success, a lively biography of one of the most creative and inventive minds in history with 21 activity pages that students can use to replicate some of the simplest of Edison's experiments. Edison, mostly deaf and thought to be a slow learner as a child, never stopped investigating. He tended to ignore his first wife and their children and didn't do much better with his second set, but he brought the world the phonograph, incandescent electric light, the storage battery, the moving-picture projector--and an electric pen now used in tattooing. He also pretty much created the Skunk Works laboratory model that Apple, Microsoft, and many other think tanks use today. A handful of sidebars about Henry Ford, Nikola Tesla, and others whose lives and work intersected with Edison's, and black-and-white illustrations, many of them period, contribute texture. An extensive list of resources adds value. GraceAnne DeCandidoCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Good

Great book, it did get attention of our 10 years old boy that is not easy this days of I-pads

Inspiring, easy to read, a bit of history and lots of details.

Good

We read a chapter a day aloud for two weeks as our historical biography. We didn't do the experiments, because science this year is zoology, and I still had to set up the DNA experiments...

Found this book to teach (as a parent) an inventors unit to 1st and 2nd graders. This book has lots of details about Thomas Edison and his cohorts. Found some activities that I could do with the kids.

Terrific and fast shipping! Very pleased. Thank you.

Ideal book that in addition to learning history, also has easy experiments.

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