

ACTIVITY KIT



RAYMOND ARROYO

New York Times bestselling author

THE UNEXPECTED LIGHT OF THOMAS ALVA EDISON



Illustrated by

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BY

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FROM *New York Times* bestselling author and news anchor Raymond Arroyo comes the first book in the Turnabout Tales series—a picture book biography of one of America’s most famous inventors, Thomas Alva Edison, and a story about how a small spark can create a big light.



Challenges Faced. Paths Changed. History Turned.

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WHAT ARE YOU CURIOUS ABOUT?

From a very young age, Thomas Alva Edison was curious about everything! He wanted to know how birds fly, where bees live, how a grain elevator carries grain up into its storage bin, and why geese sit on their eggs. What are you curious about? Think of three things that spark your imagination and curiosity. Pose them as three questions, then brainstorm some ways you might find out the answers to your questions.



QUESTION 1: _____

Ways to learn about this: _____

QUESTION 2: _____

Ways to learn about this: _____

QUESTION 3: _____

Ways to learn about this: _____



YOUR INVENTION

Thomas Alva Edison is one of our country's greatest inventors! He created the light bulb, the phonograph to record music, the motion picture camera, and so much more. He filled more than 3,000 notebooks with sketches and ideas for inventions. What do you think needs to be invented? A robot that scoops ice cream? A playground swing that holds three friends? A machine that tosses dog treats? Draw a sketch of your invention and label the relevant parts.

A large, empty rectangular area with rounded corners and a thin green border, intended for drawing a sketch of an invention.

MORSE CODE

Tom worked as a telegraph operator. Before telephones, telegraphs used a series of dots and dashes called Morse Code to send messages across great distances. Using the Morse Code alphabet below, write a message for a friend to decode.

A ● —	H ● ● ● ●	O — — —	V ● ● ● —
B — ● ● ●	I ● ●	P ● — — ●	W ● — —
C — ● — ●	J ● — — —	Q — — ● —	X — ● ● —
D — ● ●	K — ● —	R ● — ●	Y — ● — —
E ●	L ● — ● ●	S ● ● ●	Z — — ● ●
F ● ● — ●	M — —	T —	
G — — ●	N — ●	U ● ● —	

MESSAGE

DECODE IT!



THE INVENTION FACTORY

In 1876, Tom opened what he called “the invention factory” where he and his team of curious inventors and experimenters worked to turn dreams into reality. Create a logo or sign for “the invention factory” that represents the work done there.