



WALDEN
family
PLAYHOUSE™

TEACHER PAGE

World of Invention

Grade Level(s): Grades 5-8

Subject(s): Reading and Writing, Science, History

Colorado Standards: Reading and Writing 1 and 4; Science 5; History 1 and 4

Duration: One 40- 50 minute class period

Activity: Students use the recommended web site to locate information about other inventions and discoveries taking place between 1873 and 1903.

DESCRIPTION:

The world was a busy place while Wilbur and Orville were inventing their gliders and airplanes. People were dreaming of and inventing all sorts of new things to help modernize their world including a submarine, movies, radio signals, and the automobile. It was a time of change and excitement and is considered by many historians to be the first “technology revolution.”

Objectives:

- To use the Internet to locate facts about other inventions during this period
- To understand the importance of inventions to society
- To place the invention of the airplane in context

Materials:

- Access to the Internet
- Copies of *World of Invention* worksheet

Procedures:

- 1) Discuss with students that this time period in history, between 1878 and 1903, was a period of discovery and invention. Wilbur and Orville Wright were among many who were using their minds to create something new.
- 2) Distribute the *World of Invention* worksheet to students and review the suggested web sites. Direct them to the web sites either individually or as a group.
- 3) After students have completed the worksheet have them share what they have learned during a large group discussion. Include discussion of the following questions: What were some of the latest inventions during the time period of Wilbur and Orville’s first flight? What things still exist today? How have these inventions made a difference to society as a whole? What two inventions do you think have made the biggest impact on our society?
- 4) After the class discussion, collect the worksheets for assessment purposes.

Assessment:

Assess the students on the completion of the worksheet and group participation during the activity and class discussion. Assistance with developing a rubric for class participation can be found at <http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.php>.



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STUDENT WORKSHEET

World of Invention

NAME _____ DATE _____

DIRECTIONS:

Wilbur and Orville Wright were not the only people in the world that were inventing during this time period. The turn of the Twentieth century was a time of change, and new things were being discovered and invented every day. Using the web site listed below, complete the timeline information in the chart.

Web site for invention data::

www.first-to-fly.com/Information/Homework/wright_timeline.htm

Activities of Wilbur and Orville Wright

Other Inventions and Discoveries

1878 The Wright brothers build their first toy model aircraft.	1878
1893	1893 Benz and Ford create their automobiles.
1896 The Wrights take interest in the flying problem.	1896
1899	1898 Radium is discovered.
1900-1902 The Wrights fly gliders at Kitty Hawk.	1901
1903	1903 The first movie is shown.