Inventions from Past to Present

Inquiry Project

**With this project you are going to get the opportunity to research and explore an important invention that changed the world.**

*The Industrial Revolution was a period of transition from hand production to machine production. Many new inventions harnessed different power sources like steam power and coal power. This lead to the movement from cottage industries to factories. At the same time machines were being developed to improve agricultural production. Almost every aspect of daily life was influenced in some way and the continued innovation and technological growth has continued ever since.*

You are responsible for picking **ONE** major invention (some suggestions are provided below), and tracing its significant impact on society from the time is was invented until today and applying your understanding of how this invention impacted society to suggest ways it could be made better to further enhance its use in today’s world. You could also design and/or build a prototype of your suggested enhancement.

***Thinking…***

*How did the invention change people’s lives when it was invented?*

*How did the invention change people’s lives in the long term?*

*Has the invention evolved from past to present?*

*What did the invention evolve into?*

*Does the invention (or its evolution) continue to impact people’s lives?*

*How could this invention be improved upon?*

We will be spending the next week in the library learning about…

1. Research skills
2. Note taking
3. Reliable sources of information
4. Good work and research habits
5. Learning about the inquiry process and ourselves as learners

You are expected to reflect on the process throughout the week (you will be given a journal in which to do this) and demonstrate your learning and conclusions in a format of your choosing.

You will be assessed in two different ways. The majority of your mark will be about the process – both in the understanding and execution of the inquiry process.

**So you will be MARKED… on THIS!**

The other part of your mark will be about how well you are able to represent what you have learned about your chosen invention **AND** how you have used that information to answer your inquiry question.

**Some suggested topics:**

* Airplane
* Assembly Line Production
* Battery
* Camera
* Cotton Gin
* Diesel Engine
* Electricity
* Electric Motor
* Flying Shuttle
* Harvester
* Incandescent Lightbulb
* Internal Combustion Engine
* Locomotive
* Mechanical Reaper
* Motor Car
* Movie Projector
* Newcomen Engine
* Phonograph
* Power Loom
* Radio
* Seed Drill
* Sewing Machine
* Spinning Frame
* Spinning Jenny
* Spinning Mule
* Steamboat
* Steam Engine
* Steel
* Stethoscope
* Telegraph
* Telephone
* Washing Machine
* Water Frame
* Vulcanized Rubber
* Zeppelin