

# Morse & Edison – Second Grade

# Inventor Showcase

**Objective:** To introduce second graders to the inventions and contributions of Thomas Edison and Samuel Morse through a fun and interactive showcase.

## **Materials Needed:**

1. Pictures of Thomas Edison and Samuel Morse.
2. Visual aids (images and diagrams of their inventions).
3. Simple props related to their inventions (e.g., a light bulb for Edison, a Morse code chart for Morse).
4. Whiteboard and markers.
5. Craft supplies (paper, markers, crayons, scissors, glue, etc.).
6. Small flashlights or LED lights (optional).

## **Introduction:**

- Show pictures of Thomas Edison and Samuel Morse.
- Ask students what they have learned about their inventions. Write down their responses on the whiteboard.

### *Thomas Edison's Invention:*

- Introduce Thomas Edison's most famous invention, the light bulb. Show a picture of a light bulb and ask students to explain how it works.
- Let students experiment with small flashlights or LED lights to understand the concept of light and electricity.
- Discuss the impact of the light bulb on society.

### *Samuel Morse's Invention:*

- Introduce Samuel Morse and his invention, the telegraph, which uses Morse code. Show a picture of a telegraph machine and a Morse code chart.
- Explain the basics of Morse code and how it was used for communication in the past.
- Have a simple Morse code demonstration where you spell out a word using Morse code, and have students decode it together.

**Creative Activity:**

- Divide the class into two groups, one for Edison and one for Morse.
- Provide craft supplies and ask each group to create a poster or diorama that represents the inventor and their inventions.
- Encourage them to be creative and include drawings, captions, and any relevant props.
- Allow time for students to share their creations with the class.

**Closing Discussion:**

- Bring the class back together and have each group present their posters or dioramas.
- Ask students to discuss what they learned and share interesting facts about Edison and Morse.
- Conclude by emphasizing the importance of inventors and their contributions to society.

**Optional Extension Activity:**

- Organize a "Mini Invention Fair" where students create their own simple inventions or contraptions using household materials. This will help them understand the creative process of inventors like Edison and Morse.