**The Inventor Card**

**Purpose**

How does technology affect the design of a product? Can technology improve existing products or make others obsolete? As new technologies are invented and applied to consumer products, changes may be subtle in the short term but dramatic over a long period of time.

For example, how many of your parents or grandparents ask you to get something out of the "icebox". How did the term icebox come to mean "refrigerator"? The invention of self-contained refrigeration units became known today as refrigerators. When they were introduced they replaced the icebox. An icebox was a wooden cabinet that was insulated and lined with sheet metal that was coated with porcelain. Ice was delivered one or more times a week depending on the temperature. Many houses had a small ice door in the side of the house so that it would not have to be carried through the house. The ice was cut during the winter from lakes, once they had frozen, and were stored in icehouses. The icehouse was insulated with sawdust to keep the ice from melting during the hot summer months.

In this activity students will select and research an invention that they feel was important to the advancement of technology and society.

**Equipment**

3x5 cards

Internet access

Library access

**Procedure**

1.      Students will discuss and gather the following information about their chosen

invention:

         Identify an invention

         Name and photo of the inventor

         Biographical information about the inventor

         Name, date, and picture or drawing of the invention

         Description of the invention and what it accomplished

         Explanation of how the invention affected the advancement of technology

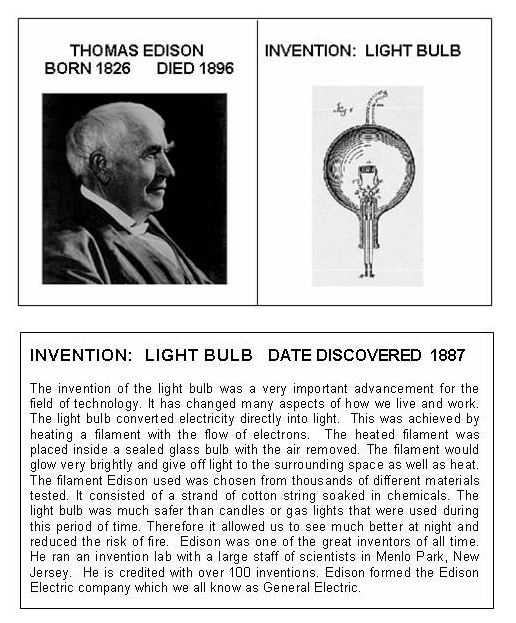
2.      The students will, from the information gathered, design and print an invention

card.

         The card must be 5" long and 3" wide.

         Both sides of the card will be used for showing the required information.

**Example Card**

****