

## THE SOURCE 2.0

Teaching with Primary Sources At Eastern Illinois University

# INVENTIONS AND INVENTORS

Welcome to the latest project by Teaching with Primary Sources at EIU, *The Source 2.0*. The Library of Congress and TPSEIU have added many resources over the years. Our goal is that The Source 2.0 will supplement some earlier newsletters with new and updated information in an easy to find format. The original newsletter is still available, but The Source 2.0 will provide a brief introduction to the topic and links to resources at both [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov) and [www.eiu.edu/eiutps](http://www.eiu.edu/eiutps). We hope that each issue of The Source 2.0 will help readers quickly locate primary sources, lesson plans, and other information relating for a designated topic. The first issue of The Source 2.0, will revisit the January 2007 issue about *Inventors & Inventions*. Without early inventions and the creativity of the inventors, many products we use today would not be available.

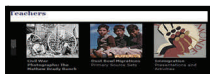
In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone, a year later he formed the Bell Telephone Company.<sup>1</sup> The success of the telephone gave Bell the financial ability to keep creating other inventions. After the telephone, Bell invented the photophone. This device enabled sound to be transmitted on a beam of light.<sup>1</sup> In 1881, Bell and his associate Charles Sumner Tainter, successfully sent a photophone message over 200 yards from one building to another.<sup>1</sup> Bell's invention of the photophone revealed the principals upon which today's laser and fiber optic communication systems are founded.<sup>1</sup>

Samuel F. B. Morse was returning from Europe in 1832, when he had the idea of using electricity to communicate over distances.<sup>2</sup> In December 1837, Morse applied for appropriations from the federal government and conducted telegraph demonstrations in both New York and Washington.<sup>2</sup> The financial panic of 1837 would delay Morse's telegraph. When financial recovery came in 1843, Morse asked Congress for \$30,000 to build a telegraph line from Washington to Baltimore.<sup>2</sup> Overhead wires connected cities up and down the Atlantic, headed westward and even connected the continents of Europe and America.<sup>2</sup>

Inventions go through trial and error, inventors can struggle for years before seeing their creations finally succeed. When creating the gramophone, Emile Berliner saw many setbacks. Even after inventing the gramophone, Berliner continued to patent improvements into the early twentieth century.<sup>3</sup> Berliner's invention brought him financial success but it also brought illegal competitors. One illegal competitor simply copied a Berliner record but placed a numeral 1 to the disc number.<sup>3</sup>

These are just a few examples of the incredible stories and primary sources available about inventors and inventions in the Library of Congress. Search American Memory and Collection Connections to find more information on inventors and their inventions.

## Teacher's Page



### Themed Resources

Science and Invention <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/themes/science>

### Primary Source Sets

Wright Brothers <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/flight/>

### Lesson Plans

Thomas Edison, Electricity, and America <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/lessons/edison/>

### Presentations and Activities

With Wings as Eagles: From Fantasy to Flight <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/presentationsandactivities/presentations/fantasy-flight/index.html>

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## American Memory



African American Experience in Ohio, 1850-1920 <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/award97/ohshtml/aaeohome.html>

Alexander Graham Bell Family Papers at the Library of Congress, 1862-1939 <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/bellhtml/bellhome.html>

Photographs from the Chicago Daily news, 1902-1933 <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpcoop/ichihtml/cdnhome.html>

Nineteenth Century in Print <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpcoop/mchtml/snchome.html>

Words and Deeds <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/mchtml/corhome.html>

Emile Berliner and the Birth of the Recording Industry <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/berlhtml/berlhome.html>

Inventing Entertainment the Motion Pictures and Sound Recordings of the Edison Companies <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/edhtml/edhome/edhome.html>

Samuel F. B. Morse Papers at the Library of Congress, 1793-1919 <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/sfbmhtml/sfbmhome.html>

The Wilbur and Orville Wright Papers at the Library of Congress <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/wrighttmo/wrighthome.html>

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## Exhibitions



Benjamin Franklin in his own Words <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/franklin-home.html>

Emile Berliner: Inventor of the Gramophone <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/berlhtml/berlsp.html>

Hog Heaven: Celebrating 100 Years of the Harley-Davidson <http://www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/harley100/>

John Bull and Uncle Sam: Inventions and Discoveries <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/british/brit-5.html>

Leonardo's Workshop <http://www.loc.gov/loc/kidslc/LGpdfs/leo-teacher.pdf>

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## Prints and Photographs



Groups of Images <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/coll/>

Miscellaneous Items in High Demand <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/cph/>

Wright Brothers <http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/wri/>

Experiments and Inventions <http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/list/picamer/paExperiments.html>

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## Webcasts



Berliner and the Birth of Recording [http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature\\_wdesc.php?rec=5194](http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=5194)

Franklin and the Society for the Useful Knowledge [http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature\\_wdesc.php?rec=5995](http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=5995)

# Blogs

Inside Technology, Science, and Business [http://blogs.loc.gov/inside\\_adams/](http://blogs.loc.gov/inside_adams/)

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## America's Story



### Meet Amazing People

**Edison** [http://americaslibrary.gov/aa\\_edison\\_subj.html](http://americaslibrary.gov/aa_edison_subj.html)

**Franklin** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/aa/franklinb/aa\\_franklinb\\_electric\\_1.html](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/aa/franklinb/aa_franklinb_electric_1.html)

### Jump Back in Time

**Inventor Elias Howe was Born: July 9, 1819** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/nation/jb\\_nation](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/nation/jb_nation)

**The Artificial Leg is Invented: November 4, 1846** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/reform/jb\\_reform\\_artificial\\_1.html](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/reform/jb_reform_artificial_1.html)

**Samuel F. B. Morse Sent the First Telegraphic Message: May 24, 1844** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/reform/jb\\_reform\\_morsecod\\_1.html](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/reform/jb_reform_morsecod_1.html)

**Alexander Graham Bell Invented the Photophone: June 3, 1880** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/gilded/jb\\_gilded\\_bell\\_1.html](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/gilded/jb_gilded_bell_1.html)

**Ice Cream Cone makes Appearance at World's Fair** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/progress/jb\\_progress\\_icecream\\_1.html](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/progress/jb_progress_icecream_1.html)

**The First Telephone Call: March 10, 1876** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/recon/jb\\_recon\\_telephone\\_1.html](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/recon/jb_recon_telephone_1.html)

**The First Coca-Cola Served: May 8, 1886** [http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/gilded/jb\\_gilded\\_cocacola\\_1.html](http://www.americaslibrary.gov/jb/gilded/jb_gilded_cocacola_1.html)

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## Today in History

**November 18, 1789: The Daguerrotype Photography** <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/nov18.html>

**August 26, 1791: Steaming Along** <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/aug26.html>

**July 9, 1819: Inventor of the Sewing Machine** <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/jul09.html>

**May 24, 1844: What Hath God Wrought?** <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/may24.html>

**October 24, 1861: The Transcontinental Telegraph and the End of the Pony Express** <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/oct24.html>

**March 10, 1876: Alexander Graham Bell** <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/mar10.html>

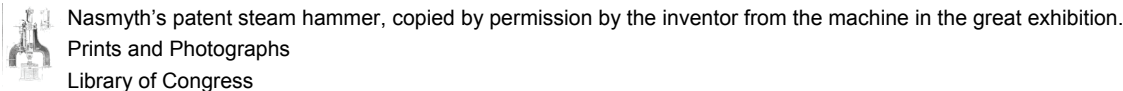
**August 12, 1877: Mr. Edison's Phonograph** <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/aug12.html>

**June 3, 1880: Bell's Photophone** <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/jun03.html>

**August 31, 1897: Edison Receives Patent for Kinetographic Camera** <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/aug31.html>

**July 23, 1904: The Ice Cream Cone** <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/jul23.html>

### Images



### Citations

1. *Alexander Graham Bell as Inventor and Scientist*, The Alexander Graham Bell Family Papers at the Library of Congress, 1862-1939, American Memory, Library of Congress. Accessed 1.1.2014 <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/bellhtml/bellinvent.html>
2. *The Invention of the Telegraph*, The Samuel F. B. Morse Papers at the Library of Congress, 1793-1919, American Memory, Library of Congress, Accessed 1.1.2014 <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/sfbmhtml/sfbmtelessay.html>
3. *The Gramophone*, Emile Berliner and the Birth of the Recording Industry, American Memory, Library of Congress, Accessed 1.1.14 <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/berlhtml/berlgramo.html>

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**We're on the web**  
**[www.eiu.edu/eiutps](http://www.eiu.edu/eiutps)**

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Tech Talk for Teachers Podcast: [techtalk4teachers.blogspot.com](http://techtalk4teachers.blogspot.com)

If you or your school is interested in learning more about the Library of Congress resources, please contact us. Our program offers individualized professional development using the rich resources offered by the Library of Congress.

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