

Thomas Edison

Thomas Alva Edison is a perfect example of persistence. Thomas Edison was told that he was “addled” and did not belong in public school. He had only three months of formal education. His mother taught him at home. At the age of 12, he lost almost all hearing. As a teenager, Edison worked in a print shop and, at the age of 15, published his own newspaper. He saved a young boy’s life when he fell under a train and the boy’s father repaid him by teaching him telegraphy. Edison improved the telegraph and began his own company inventing and improving other inventions. Edison holds 1493 patents to inventions — more than any other person — and there are over five million pages of notes from his inventions and ideas. You can learn the most about Edison by reading his quotes. Remember, this is a man who had only three months of formal education and is credited with more patents than any man who has ever lived.

“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is to always try just one more time.”

“Genius is one percent inspiration 99 percent perspiration.”

“I never quit until I get what I am after. Negative results are just what I’m after. They can be just as valuable as positive results.”

“Good fortune is what happens when opportunity is mixed with preparation.”

“Discontent is the first necessity of progress, show me a thoroughly satisfied man and I will show you a failure.”

“Results? Why man I have gotten lots of results! If I find 10,000 ways something won’t work, I haven’t failed. I am not discouraged, because every attempt discarded is another step forward. Just because something doesn’t do what you planned it to do, doesn’t mean it’s useless. Reward should prove an incentive to great accomplishment...there are no rules here, we’re just trying to accomplish something.”

“The three things that are essential to achievement are hard work, stick-to-itiveness and common sense. Opportunity is admired by most people because it looks like work.”

“A genius is a person who did his homework. I never did anything worth doing by accident.”

“Time is really the only capital that any human being has, and the one thing that he can’t afford to lose.”

“As a cure for worrying, work is better than whiskey. I have always found when I was worrying, that the best thing to do was put my mind upon something, work hard and forget what was troubling me.”

“I never perfected an invention that I did not think about in terms of the service it might give to others; I am proud of the fact that I never invented anything to kill.”

quote

“Success is not evaluated by never making mistakes; it is evaluated by the responses one makes to those mistakes.”
— Charles Bradbury

persistence — lesson 6

1. What quote was most meaningful to you? Why? _____

2. Why was Edison a model of persistence? _____

3. How can you use this example of Edison to model? _____

gratitudes

objectives

vocabulary

MONDAY	1	1	WORD:
	2	2	
	3	3	
TUESDAY	1	1	WORD:
	2	2	
	3	3	
WEDNESDAY	1	1	WORD:
	2	2	
	3	3	
THURSDAY	1	1	WORD:
	2	2	
	3	3	
FRIDAY	1	1	REVIEW:
	2	2	
	3	3	

KEY TO SUCCESS

EVALUATE YOURSELF

HONESTY

ATTITUDE

LEADERSHIP

EXERCISE

DID MY BEST

REST

GRATITUDES

RESPONSIBILITY

GOALS

SELF-IMAGE

HOMEWORK

TESTS

OVERALL
