



On-line Lessons

“Electricity in our lives today”



Inventions & Innovations  
Grades 3-8

**Question:**

What if you didn't have electricity - what wouldn't you be able to do?

**Try This:** Make a list of all the ways you use electricity in one day, from when you wake up until you go to sleep. Now, ask your parents to show you the electric bills for your home. What is the average cost for electrical service for your home for the last 6 months? Fill out this table to find out.

Name of the Month	Cost of Electrical Service
Month 1:	\$
Month 2:	\$
Month 3:	\$
Month 4:	\$
Month 5:	\$
Month 6:	\$
Total Cost of Electrical Service for 6 months: (add months 1-6)	\$
Divided by 6 for average monthly use:	\$ per month

**Bonus:** How could you figure out your average daily cost of electrical service for one month? What is it?

Monthly Cost divided by # of days in the month = Daily Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**More to explore:** Check out The Schenectady Museum's Exhibition about electricity to see what they did without electricity.

**Things to Think About:** If you could only keep 5 electrical appliances in your home, which would you keep? Why?

1) Electrical Appliance \_\_\_\_\_  
I want to keep this electrical appliance because \_\_\_\_\_

2) Electrical Appliance \_\_\_\_\_  
I want to keep this electrical appliance because \_\_\_\_\_

3) Electrical Appliance \_\_\_\_\_  
I want to keep this electrical appliance because \_\_\_\_\_

4) Electrical Appliance \_\_\_\_\_  
I want to keep this electrical appliance because \_\_\_\_\_

5) Electrical Appliance \_\_\_\_\_  
I want to keep this electrical appliance because \_\_\_\_\_

**Fun Facts:** Thomas Edison lost out on a patent for the first electric chair because he wanted to use Direct Current rather than Alternating Current.

**What's This All About?** Math, Technology, History, Research

**Web Links for More Information:** [http://www.psrec.org/electric/hist\\_1.html](http://www.psrec.org/electric/hist_1.html)

## SCHENECTADY MUSEUM

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