

Lesson 5 - Innovation, Intellectual Property Rights and More approximately 45 minutes

Lesson Plan

Step	Approach	Activity	Duration
A	Overarching Question of the Day	Is intellectual property protection an integral part of innovation?	2 Minutes
B	Individual Activity	Read the resource sheet and explore the links provided to learn more about intellectual property, copyright, patents and trademarks. <i>Resource Sheet 1 - Did You Know?</i>	5 Minutes
C	Explore More Individual Activity	Watch and read the videos or selections on Elon Musk, Thomas Edison, Stan Ovshinsky and Don Chadwick on "Patents and Intellectual Property Rights," a critical part of innovation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Elon Musk: Overview</i> www.oninnovation.com/innovators/detail.aspx?innovator=Musk • <i>Thomas Edison: Prolific Inventor, Change Agent</i> www.oninnovation.com/innovators/detail.aspx?innovator=Edison • <i>Stan Ovshinsky: Vision and Opposition</i> www.oninnovation.com/videos/detail.aspx?video=1445 • <i>Don Chadwick: Equa Chair Part 3</i> www.oninnovation.com/videos/detail.aspx?video=1172 • <i>Stan Ovshinsky: Legacy and Advice</i> www.oninnovation.com/videos/detail.aspx?video=1474 	15 Minutes
D	Critical Thinking	Complete <i>Activity Sheet 1 - Intellectual Property Rights.</i>	8 Minutes
E	Problem Solving	What is "open source"? Does open source pose a threat to intellectual property rights? Watch Mitchell Baker highlight video: www.oninnovation.com/innovators/detail.aspx?innovator=Baker and answer the questions on <i>Activity Sheet 2 - Innovation and the Open Source Phenomenon.</i>	15 Minutes

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Activity Sheet 1

View the suggested videos or readings as well as the “Did You Know?” Resource Sheet, and answer the following questions:

1. List three new things you learned about intellectual property rights or ways to protect innovation.

A.

B.

C.

2. Discuss some difficulties that you see for inventors and innovators in protecting their intellectual rights.

3. What is the role of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office? Why do you think the government is involved in this role? Explore more: www.uspto.gov

4. Thomas Edison executed the first of his 1,093 successful U.S. patent applications on October 13, 1868, at the age of 21. His breakthroughs have had a profound effect on virtually every aspect of our daily life. Which ones continue to evolve and impact the ways we work, live and play?



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Innovation and the Open Source Phenomenon

Activity Sheet 2

A popular and current non-patented invention is called “open source.” After viewing what Mitchell Baker has to say on this topic, answer the following questions:

1. Like Mozilla Firefox, what other “open source” resources allow the free flow and sharing of ideas today. How is each unique?

Open Source Resource	Uniqueness

2. Does the concept of “open sourcing” pose a threat to intellectual property rights, copyright, etc.? Why and why not?



Thomas Edison's Lab, Greenfield Village®, Dearborn Michigan



Lesson 5 - Innovation, Intellectual Property Rights and More Did You Know?

Resource Sheet 1

Intellectual property	refers to works created by the mind such as processes, tools, equipment, literary and artistic efforts, etc., that may be protected by copyrights, trademarks or patents.
Patents	<p>are issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. A patent gives the inventor the right to exclude others from making, using, offering for sale or selling the invention in the United States. There are three types of patents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A plant patent is given to anyone who invents, discovers and asexually reproduces a new and distinct variety of plant. • A utility patent is given to anyone who invents, discovers or improves a process, machine or thing. • A design patent is given to anyone who invents a new design or look for a product.
Trademark	is a brand name. It can be a word, symbol or name that is used to identify and differentiate the products or services of manufacturers or sellers.
Copyright	is a type of protection given for original works of authorship such as literary, dramatic, musical, artistic and other intellectual works.
Entrepreneur	is someone who starts a new business.
Inventing	is the process of using your intellect to create something new that did not previously exist.

For more information, visit:

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at www.uspto.gov

Lemelson-MIT Program, Inventor's Handbook at <http://web.mit.edu/invent/h-main.html>

