

Daily Life Changes

Unit 2 Lesson 5

How did inventions change lives in
the mid 1800s?

By 1869 railroad lines stretched
across the country.

Traveling Made Easier

- ❑ As the eastern part of the United States got even more crowded, people began moving west. Traveling was hard. There were no trains, airplanes, cars, or even roads. So a faster way to travel was needed.
- ❑ Traveling west by wagon or ship took too long.
- ❑ In 1862, workers began building the first transcontinental railroad.
- ❑ The railroad ran across the continent.
- ❑ Chinese immigrants in search of better lives and gold came to California.
- ❑ Many became railroad workers. More than 12,000 worked for the Central Pacific Railroad by 1868.
- ❑ Irish immigrants worked on the Union Pacific Railroad which was built westward from Omaha, Nebraska.
- ❑ The Central Pacific and the Union Pacific Railroads met in Promontory, Utah in 1869.
- ❑ Railroads made it easier to carry things like food and mail between the East and the West.

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- ❑ People today travel by car, bus, train, and airplanes when traveling long distances
- ❑ <https://study.com/academy/lesson/transcontinental-railroad-facts-lesson-for-kids.html>

HISTORY VIDEOS for KIDS!



**New inventions improved lives in
many ways.**

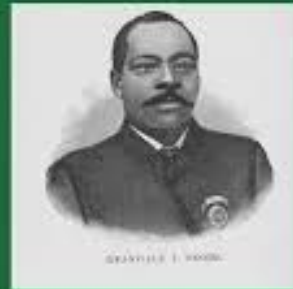
New Ways of Doing Things

- ❑ Inventions by Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Graham Bell made life easier and safer.
- ❑ House fires were a common nuisance until Franklin invented the Franklin Stove in 1742.
- ❑ Before Bell's invention of the telephone in 1876 communication was difficult and much less timely. Coincidentally, Elisha Gray was developing a "telephone" at the same time as Bell. However, Bell received his patent first.
- ❑ <https://jr.brainpop.com/socialstudies/biographies/alexandergrahambell/>

New Ways of Doing Things

- ❑ Granville T. Woods invented a railway telegraph in 1887, train operators could send and receive messages between moving trains and the station. This helped people keep track of where trains were, it also helped prevent accidents.

Granville T. Woods, "Black Edison"



Over the course of his life, Granville T. Woods earned more than 30 patents for inventions including an improved steam boiler furnace, the multiplex telegraph, and the third-rail. His inventions helped increase safety and communication involved with public transportation.

Image: Wikimedia Commons, Granville T. Woods, Public Domain

New Ways of Doing Things

Before

- ❑ 1830- Until the 1830s news traveled only as fast as a galloping horse, it could take days for news to travel across the country.
- ❑ 1853-Climbing many stairs wasn't easy so most building were only a few stories tall.

After

- ❑ 1830- Joseph Henry invented the telegraph in 1830, but it was not until 1843 that telegraph lines were put up. Their news could travel with lightning speed.
- ❑ 1853-In 1853, Elisha Otis made the first safe elevator, a machine for moving people up and down in a building. Now buildings could be taller.

New Ways of Doing Things

Before

- ❑ 1879-If you wanted to see at night you had to light a candle or an oil lamp. This was dangerous-fires could start easily.
- ❑ 1955- Germs spread in crowded cities. Schools and public places were sometimes closed so people couldn't pass on sickness.

After

- ❑ 1879- After 1879 when Thomas Edison improved the light bulb, homes, workplaces, and schools got much brighter and a lot safer, too.
- ❑ 1955- In 1955, Jonas' Salk made a vaccine that prevented a serious disease called polio. Vaccines made it safer for people to live in crowded cities.

**Automobiles and other inventions
improved ways of traveling.**

More Ways to Get Around

- ❑ By the early 1900s people had invented even faster ways to travel-cars and airplanes.
- ❑ People could travel longer distances and make faster trips with these new forms of transportation.
- ❑

Modes of Transportation

Mode of Transportation	Average Speed
Walking	3 miles per hour
Riding a Horse	33 miles per hour
Covered Wagon	One mile per hour
Steam Locomotive	50 miles per hour

Making Cars

- ❑ Henry Ford started a company in Detroit, Michigan to manufacture cars in 1903.
- ❑ Ford used an assembly line to make making the cars faster and cheaper.
- ❑ Ford sold his first Model T car in 1908.
- ❑ By 1923 almost half the cars sold in the United States were Model Ts.

