



PHILO FARNSWORTH

Lesson Plan

The World's Fair

Lesson Plan for *Philo Farnsworth*

Grade 3

Objective

To help students identify key details from a variety of informational sources and draw conclusions based on those ideas.

Things Needed

- *Philo Farnsworth* book
- Access to the “Philo Farnsworth” web page on the Pop! website: <https://popbooksonline.com/amazing-young-people/philo-farnsworth>
- Paper and pencils

Before the Activity

Have students read the *Philo Farnsworth* book. Open the “Philo Farnsworth” web page in your internet browser and pull up the “Watch a Video” tab.

Activity

Philo Farnsworth invented his television in the 1920s. However, television broadcasts weren't common until years later. The video on the Pop! website explains the first broadcast sent out by RCA (the Radio Corporation of America), a company that made and sold electronics. Watch the video as a class. Then discuss the following questions:

- In what year did RCA's broadcast take place? (Answer: 1939)
- Where did it take place? (Answer: at the New York World's Fair)
- What was the World's Fair? (Answer: an event that showed off new technology)
- What were some of the first events shown on TV? (Answers: a president's speech, the king and queen of England, a baseball game, a national political convention)
- Why would people be excited to watch these events? (Possible Answers: The events featured famous people. The events had important results people would want to know.)



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Ask students to think of modern technologies they enjoy using today. Students should choose one of their favorite technologies and prepare a short speech describing it. First, they should state what the technology allows people to do. Second, they should briefly explain how it works. Finally, they should explain why the technology is fun or useful.

Evaluation

Have students take turns coming to the front of the class to present their speeches. Give each student up to 4 points:

- 1 point for including each of the three sections
- 1 point for speaking at a speed and volume that is easy for listeners to understand

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' speaking and listening standards, grade 3 (SL 3.2, 3.4).

