Key Innovators

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| Aristotle | Greek philosopher who wrote works of logic, metaphysics, ethics, natural sciences, politics, and poetics. |
| Austen, Jane | British writer who paved the way for Victorian authors with her irony and wit. |
| Bi Sheng | Chinese inventor credited with inventing movable type 300 years before Gutenberg’s similar invention revolutionized the Western world. |
| Bell, Alexander Graham | American inventor of the telephone, an early hearing aid, and an improved phonograph, among other inventions. |
| Blackwell, Elizabeth | American social reformer who was the first woman to receive a medical doctorate and the first woman to be appointed a pastor. She sought reform in women’s rights, abolition, and temperance. |
| Bohr, Niels | Danish physicist who received the Nobel Prize for his investigation of atomic structure and radiation. |
| Carson, Rachel | American writer, biologist, and ecologist who was a pioneer in environmental advocacy. |
| Carver, George Washington | American botanist, agricultural chemist, and educator who found innovations for the growth of peanuts, soybeans, and sweet potatoes. |
| Copernicus | Polish astronomer who furthered the theory that the sun is the center of the solar system. |
| Crick, Francis | British biologist who with James Watson proposed the double helix model of DNA. |
| Curie, Marie | French chemist who won two Nobel Prizes for her work with radiation. |
| Dalton, John | British chemist who formulated the atomic theory and the law of partial pressures. |
| Darwin, Charles | English natural scientist who formulated a theory on evolution by natural selection. |
| DaVinci, Leonardo | Italian painter, engineer, musician, and scientist who was probably the most versatile man of the Renaissance. |
| Edison, Thomas | American inventor who patented over one thousand inventions, including the first electric power plant and the microphone. |
| Einstein, Albert | German-born American physicist who formulated the special theory of relativity and the general theory of relativity and who won a Nobel Prize for his work on the photoelectric effect. |
| Fleming, Alexander | British bacteriologist who discovered penicillin. |
| Ford, Henry | American automobile manufacturer who developed a gasoline-powered automobile and who mass produced the Model T. |
| Fulton, Robert | American engineer who developed the first useable submarine, torpedo, and steamboat. |
| Galileo | Italian astronomer and mathematician who refined the refracting telescope. |
| Gates, Bill | American computer software designer and business entrepreneur who co-founded Microsoft. |
| Goodall, Jane | British zoologist who is known for her revolutionary study of chimpanzees. |
| Harvey, William | English physician, anatomist, and physiologist who discovered the circulation of blood in the human body. |
| Jemison, Mae | American astronaut who was the first African-American woman to go into space. |
| Jenner, Edward | British physician who discovered the small pox vaccination. |
| Julian, Percy Lavon | American chemist whose research yielded over 100 patents. |
| King, Jr., Martin Luther | American preacher and activist who was a main organizer of the Civil Rights movement. |
| Lavoisier, Antoine | French chemist who is considered the father of modern chemistry. |
| Linnaeus, Carolus | Swedish botanist who founded the modern classification system for plants and animals. |
| Mann, Horace | American educator who introduced reforms and regulations that greatly influenced public education. |
| McClintock, Barbara | American genetic botanist who received a Nobel Prize for her work with genes in plant cells. |
| Meitner, Lise | Swedish physicist who was one of the first to study nuclear fission. |
| Mendel, Gregor | Austrian botanist who founded the science of genetics and discovered the principle of inheritance. |
| Mendeleev, Dmitri | Russian chemist who invented the periodic table of elements. |
| Monet, Claude | French painter who advocated the school of Impressionism and who examined the effect of changing light on the subject. |
| Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus | Austrian composer who was a child prodigy and composed over six-hundred works. |
| Muir, John | American naturalist who advocated the creation of natural parks and reservations. |
| Newton, Issac | English mathematician and scientist who invented differential calculus and who formulated the theory of universal gravitation and three laws of motion. |
| Nightingale, Florence | British nurse who organized and directed a unit of field nurses during the Crimean War and who is considered the founder of modern nursing. |
| Roosevelt, Franklin | American politician who was president of the United States and a governor of New York and whose administration implemented New Deal programs to assist Americans during the Great Depression. |
| Schweitzer, Albert | French philosopher, physician, and musician who founded a missionary hospital in Gabon and who won the Nobel Peace Prize. |
| Victoria | Queen of Great Britain and Ireland for over sixty years who influenced the sense of duty and moral code of the Victorian age. |
| Vo-Dinh, Tuan | Vietnamese-born biophysicist who invented numerous lifesaving devices that detect and diagnose diseases by optical scanning. |
| Washington, Booker T. | African-American educator who acquired an education after emancipation and presided over Tuskegee Institute. |
| Watson, James | American biologist who with Francis Crick proposed the double helix model of DNA. |
| Woolf, Virginia | British writer who perfected the modernist fiction technique of stream-of-consciousness |