

# What's Inside a Bulb?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Observe a working light bulb and a burned-out bulb. Answer the questions below.

**1** Compare the two light bulbs. What differences do you see?

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**2** What happens when your teacher shakes the burned-out bulb? What do you hear?

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**3** What happened to the filament and why?

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**4** When a filament breaks, how do you think that affects the performance of the light bulb?

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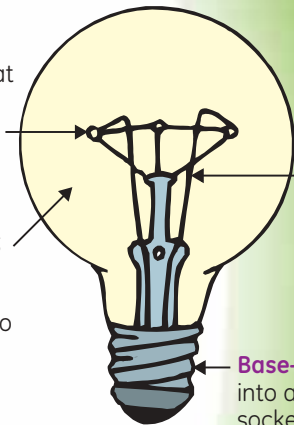
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LIGHT BULB

**Filament—**  
coiled wire that heats up and gives off light

**Filling gas—**  
can't be seen; prevents the filament from burning up too quickly



**Support wires—**  
hold up the filament

**Base—**screws into a light socket and brings electricity to the lamp

## Did You Know?

- Thomas Edison did not invent the first light bulb, but he did invent the first household light bulb that people were able to use.
- Thomas Edison spent more time working on his light bulb than on any other invention in his career.
- Thomas Edison was nicknamed "The Wizard of Menlo Park" because of his many inventions.
- Thomas Edison created 300 other inventions related to the light bulb, including generators, cables, switches, fuses, and sockets.
- Thomas Edison was afraid of the dark.