

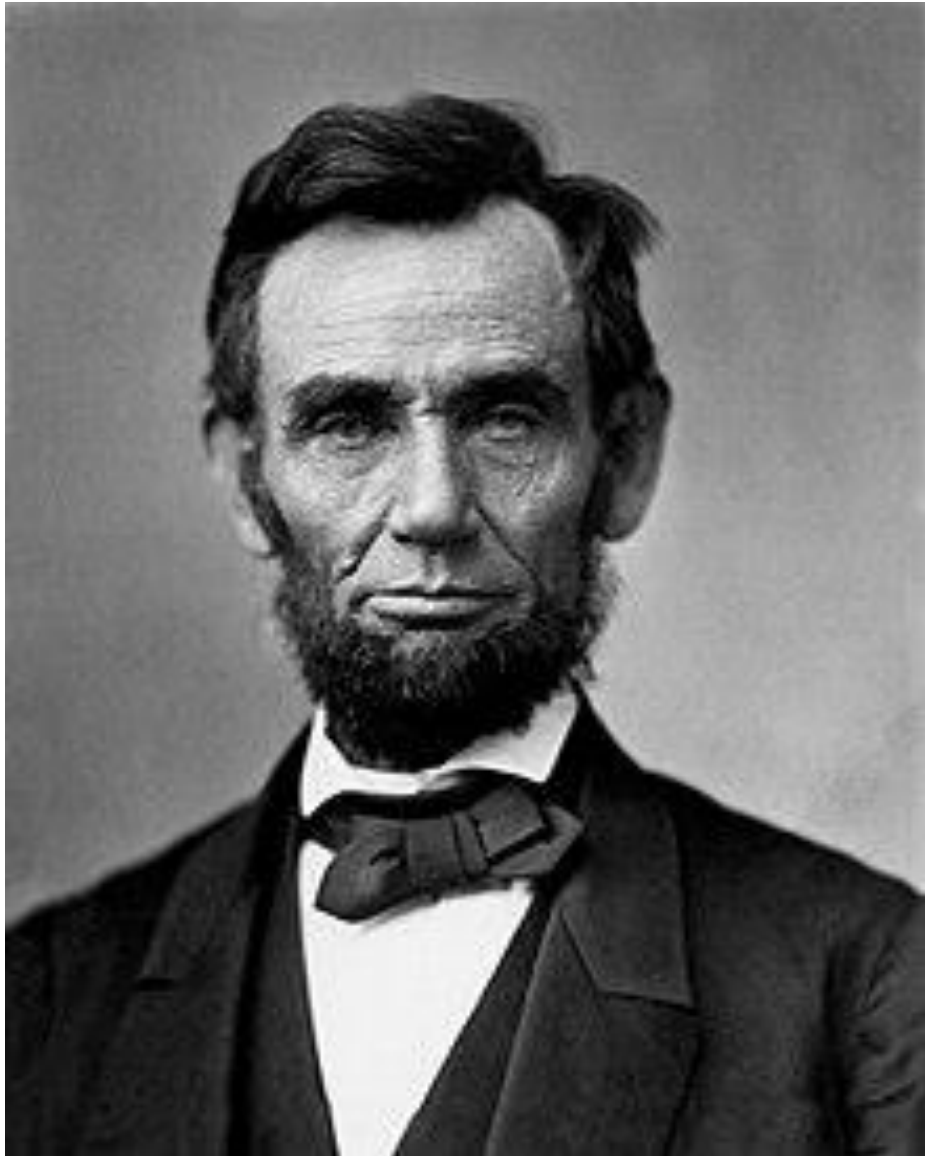
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Teacher Directions

1. Print out each poster. You can use them as a bulletin board display, a hallway display, or pull them out one at a time to discuss with students.
2. Students can use the optional response sheets to write about the failures of each famous person. They can also record what they have learned about failure after studying the failures.

Abraham Lincoln



Abraham Lincoln didn't get into law school, went into debt after a business failed, lost elections for the state legislature, Congress, Senate, and Vice President.

“Success is going from failure to failure without losing your enthusiasm.”

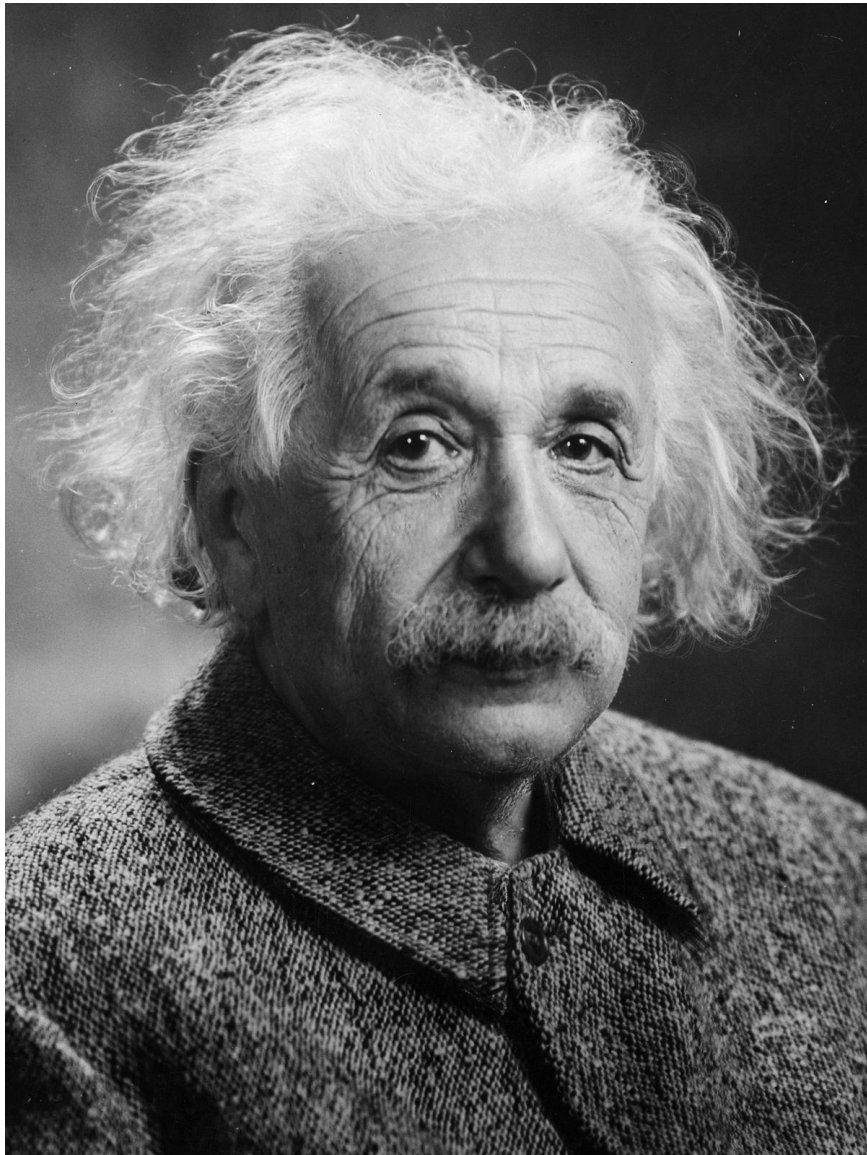
Akio Morita



Akio Morita made a rice cooker that only made soggy or burnt rice.

“Don’t be afraid to make a mistake. But make sure you don’t make the same mistake twice.”

Albert Einstein



Albert Einstein didn't learn to speak until he was four years old. One teacher told him he would never amount to anything.

“A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new.”

Arianna Huffington



Arianna Huffington was told she wouldn't get into the University of Cambridge because her English wasn't good enough. She also had a failed book and withdrew from a governor's race.

“Failure is not the opposite of success; it's part of success.”

Bob Mankoff



Bob Mankoff was rejected over 2,000 times from the *New Yorker*.

“You do have to put in a lot of time to get good at anything, and that includes cartoons.”

Colonel Sanders



Colonel Sanders spent two years living in his car trying to get someone to buy his chicken recipe. He was rejected 1,009 times.

“One has to remember that every failure can be a stepping-stone to something better.”

Diana Nyad



Diana Nyad spent many years trying to swim from Cuba to Florida only to be pulled out of the water each time.

“Isn’t life about determining your own finish line? The journey has always been about reaching your own other shore, no matter what it is.”

Dr. Seuss



Dr. Seuss was kicked off his college magazine staff. He also got turned down twenty-seven times before his first book was published.

“You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose.”

Elizabeth Blackwell



Elizabeth Blackwell was rejected from twenty-nine different medical schools.

“None of us can know what we are capable of until we are tested.”

Henry Ford



Henry Ford had several models of cars fail and financial backers drop him throughout his career.

“Whether you think you can or you think you can’t, you’re right.”

J.K. Rowling



J.K. Rowling was rejected by 12 publishers after finishing the first Harry Potter book.

“It is impossible to live without failing at something, unless you live so cautiously that you might as well not have lived at all- in which case, you fail by default.”

Lady Gaga



Lady Gaga dropped out of school to pursue music. She was turned down by every record label she visited.

“Fight and push harder for what you believe in, you’d be surprised, you are much stronger than you think.”

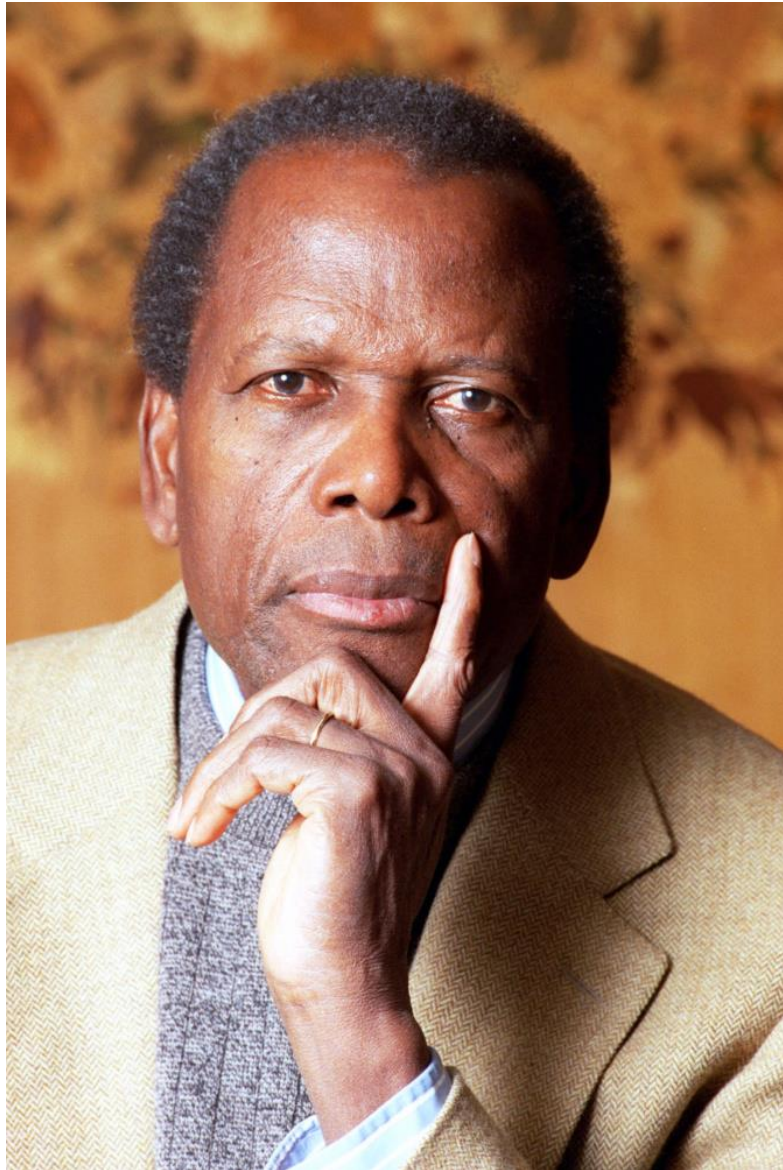
Oprah Winfrey



Oprah Winfrey was fired from her first television job after being told she was “too emotional”.

“You don’t become what you want, you become what you believe.”

Sidney Poitier



Sidney Poitier tried to join a theater company and was rejected because of his accent and inability to sing.

“I always wanted to be someone better the next day than I was the day before.”

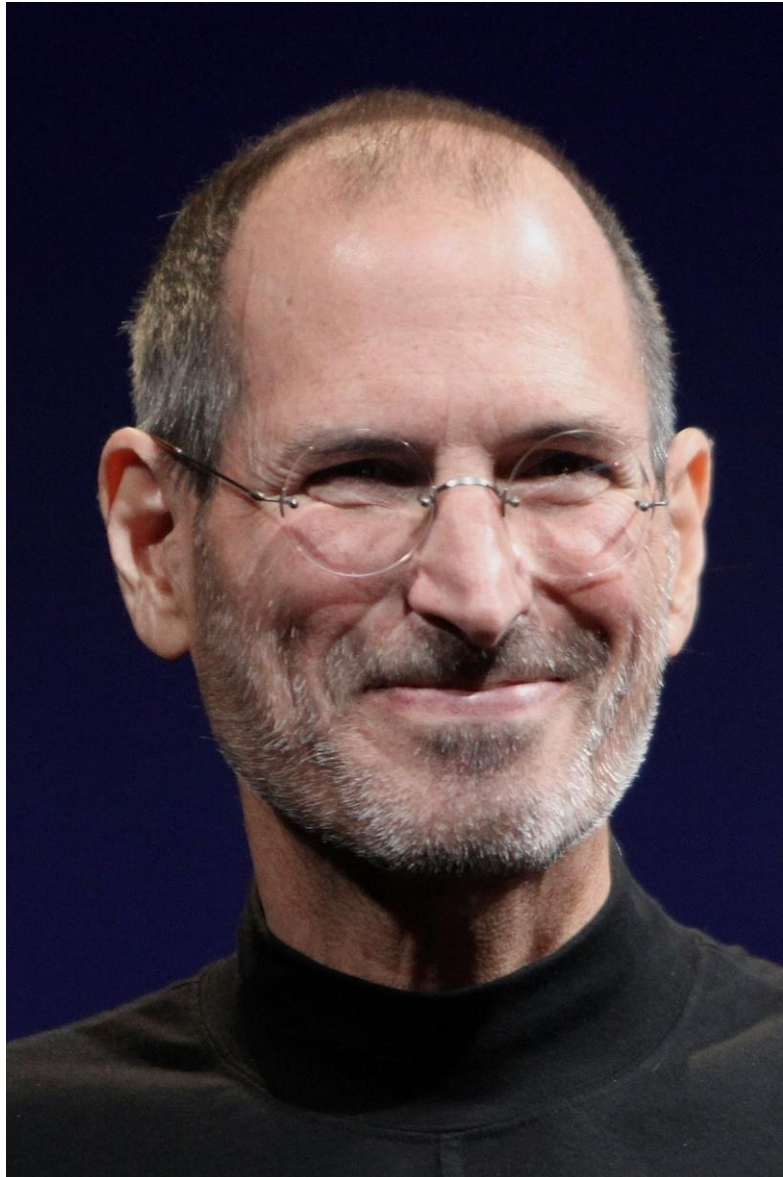
Soichiro Honda



Soichiro Honda spent years working on a design for a piston ring only to be turned down by Toyota and laughed at by fellow engineers.

“Success is ninety-nine percent failure.”

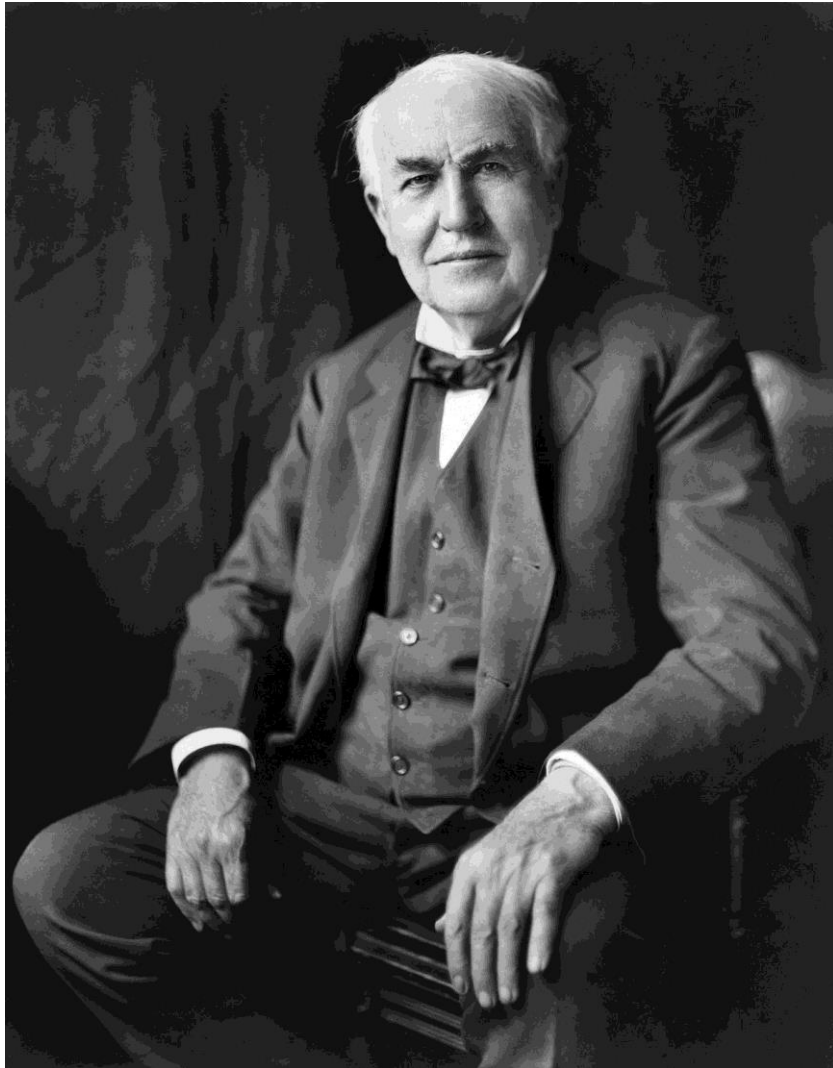
Steve Jobs



Steve Jobs was forced to resign from his own company and had his next company go bankrupt.

“The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do.”

Thomas Edison



Thomas Edison tried over 10,000 times to create an efficient light bulb.

“Many of life’s failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up.”

Vera Wang



Vera Wang failed to make the Olympic Ice Skating team and then quit her job at Vogue.

“In the end, it’s not about failure, it’s about how much you love what you do.”

Walt Disney



Walt Disney's first company went bankrupt and he had a hard time finding the money he needed to build Disneyland.

**“If you can dream it,
you can do it.”**

The Wright Brothers

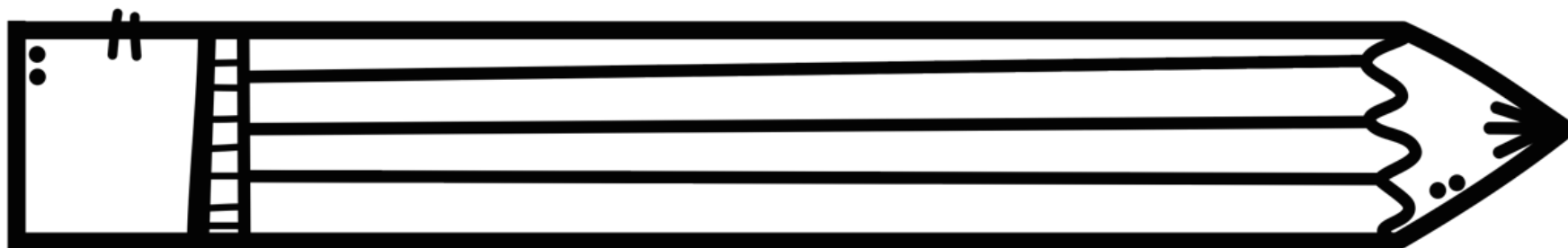


The Wright Brothers experienced many crashes, setbacks and technical failures trying to create a machine-powered airplane.

“Isn’t it astonishing that all these secrets have been preserved for so many years just so we could discover them.”

Famous Failures

Response I Sheets



Famous Failures

Name: _____

Fill out information about each person's failure below.

**Abraham
Lincoln**

Akio Morita

Albert Einstein

**Arianna
Huffington**

Bob Mankoff

Colonel Sanders

Diana Nyad

Dr. Seuss

Famous Failures

Name: _____

Fill out information about each person's failure below.

Elizabeth Blackwell

Henry Ford

J.K. Rowling

Lady Gaga

Oprah Winfrey

The Wright Brothers

Sidney Poitier

Soichiro Honda

Famous Failures

Name: _____

Fill out information about each person's failure below.

Steve Jobs

Thomas Edison

Vera Wang

Walt Disney

What have you learned about failure?

Famous Failures

Name: _____

Fill out information about each person's failure below.

Famous Failures

Name: _____

Fill out information about each person's failure below.

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What have you learned about failure?

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Acknowledgements

