

**The Crayon Man: The True Story of the  
Invention of Crayola Crayons**  
CCSS Assessment Answer Key

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

Score: / 9

**Directions:**

Use what you know about **The Crayon Man** to answer each of the following questions.

1. According to the text, what made Edwin Binney really, really happy?

- A Working with black materials at his factory
- B Seeing color everywhere in nature
- C Traveling around the world with Harold
- D Making money from his inventions

2. What is the main idea of this book?

- A Edwin Binney loved gardening and flowers
- B The World's Fair was an important event in 1904
- C Edwin Binney invented Crayola crayons to solve children's problems
- D Alice Binney was a helpful wife and former teacher

3. What happened after Edwin's team experimented with grinding rocks and minerals into powders?

- A They gave up and tried a different approach
- B They discovered how to make many different colored shades
- C They decided to only make black crayons
- D They sold their company to another inventor

4. In this book, what does the word 'formula' mean?

- A A math problem to solve
- B A type of baby food
- C A secret recipe for making something
- D A kind of scientific equation

CCSS Assessment

Common Core Assessment:  
One question for each Reading  
Informational OR Reading Literature  
standard (1-9)



5. How does the author organize the information in this book? (RI.3.5)

- A By comparing Edwin's inventions to other inventors' work
- B By telling Edwin's story in time order from beginning to end
- C By listing problems and solutions in separate chapters
- D By describing different types of art materials

6. Why did the author write this book about Edwin Binney? (RI.3.6)

- A To teach readers how to make their own crayons at home
- B To convince people to buy more Crayola products
- C To inform readers about an important inventor and inspire creativity
- D To explain why old crayons were dangerous for children

7. How do the illustrations help you understand Edwin's love of color? (RI.3.7)

- A They show him covered in black dust at work
- B They show him surrounded by colorful flowers and crayons
- C They show the inside of the crayon factory
- D They show children using crayons at school

8. The text explains that Edwin listened to people's needs and then invented solutions. Which example best supports this idea? (RI.3.8)

- A Edwin planted a colorful garden at his home
- B Edwin worked with his cousin Harold to run their business
- C Edwin created dustless chalk after teachers complained about regular chalk
- D Edwin won a gold medal at the World's Fair

9. How are Edwin's original crayon-making process and today's crayon-making process different? (RI.3.9)

- A Edwin used different colors than modern factories use
- B Edwin made crayons by hand while modern factories use machines
- C Edwin's crayons were more expensive than modern crayons
- D Edwin used safer materials than modern crayon makers use

Answer Key

