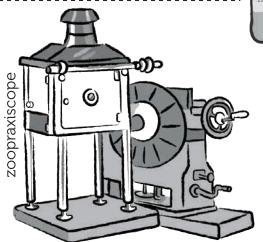
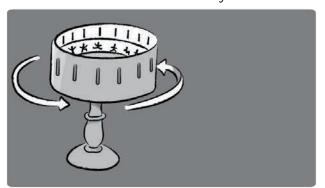


Pictures have been an important part of human culture for a long, long time, but only in the last 100 years have we invented machines to capture images of real life.

Means of photographing the world were invented in the very early 1800s. A man named Thomas Wedgwood made an early camera, camera obscura, a device that used light to capture an image.



As inventors continued to improve upon the camera, one of the first machines that could project moving pictures was a "zoopraxiscope." This camera-projector was very similar to a device called a zoetrope; the earliest known version was created in China a thousand years earlier.





camera obscura

Then Edison created the kinetoscope, and later, the vitascope projector.

The Lumière brothers were famous for creating their version of it, called the cinematographe, which conveniently operated as a portable motion-picture camera, film processor, and projector.





The first moving pictures were novelties; they were popular and exciting because they were a new technology. "Movies" were a new, cheap way to entertain the masses.

