

Invent at Home

Anyone can be an inventor and make inventions! Use some of the suggested materials and follow the process of invention to solve the problem below! Take some time to think about each step of the invention process. Feel free to jump around or go back if you want to! Keep track of your process and ideas and write them down so you can remember what you did and share with others.

Imagine that you and your family live in a desert. You do not have running water in your home, and you live far from a water source.



Can you invent something to help you transport water from the source to your home easily and efficiently?

Suggested Materials:

- Scissors
- Tape/glue
- Craft sticks
- Disposable cups and plates
- Paper clips and binder clips
- Pipe cleaners
- Clothes pins
- Fabric or felt
- String, yarn, or ribbon
- Recyclable materials, like egg cartons, yogurt cups, and paper towel rolls (make sure they are clean first!)
- Construction paper
- Other craft materials you might have – there is no limit (just make sure to have permission first!)
- Sketching materials (paper, pencils, markers, crayons)

The Process of Invention



Every invention starts with an idea. What's yours? What problem are you trying to solve?



Many inventors build off of other ideas. How have other people tried to solve the problem you're working on? How will your invention be different?



Can you draw your ideas out on paper? Inventors use pencil and paper to sketch out their ideas.



A prototype is a model or a real-life example of your idea. Inventors use simple materials to bring their ideas to life. Create your own prototype!



Test your invention. What happened? What worked well? What could be better?



How can you improve your prototype? Inventors work to make their ideas better.



Inventors think about how to convince other people to try to buy their inventions. How would you talk about your idea to other people?