**The Invention Convention**

**Steps for Students**

Can you invent something? Can you think of an idea or invention that will help people? Read the five steps below. They will help you to become an inventor.



**Step 1:** **Learning About Inventors**
Learn about inventors. Read about them in books. Talk to people about them.

**Step 2: Finding an Idea**
Think about something people need in order to make life better. Talk to people about something they would like to see changed. Make sure you use at least two simple machines in your invention. Then tell your teacher about it on a special sheet of paper called "Intent to Invent."

**Step 3: Research and Planning**
Use your plan to make an invention. Or write about how your invention would help to solve a problem. Be sure to follow science safety rules when you make an invention.

 **Step 4: Developing and Testing**
Test your invention or your plan. Make sure it works and is safe to use. Tell about your invention. You may want to draw a picture of it.

**Step 5: Attending the Invention Convention**
Get your invention or plan ready for the Invention Convention. Try to make it look as good as you can. Learn all you can about how it works and what it is good for. Bring it to the Invention Convention. Be ready to answer questions.

**Examples of Student Inventions**

“I can't think of anything to invent!” Here are some examples of what students have created in the past.

* plastic product that holds a book while you eat
* a lunch-box alarm that goes off when an unauthorized person opens the box
* a bird feeder that protects feed from wind and rain
* a newly designed bottle opener
* a toothpaste cap that minimizes waste and mess
* a device that prevents blisters from forming on hands when raking, shoveling, or sweeping
* a billfold that organizes money by denomination for blind people
* a bus-stop night light
* clothing tags to help match and coordinate clothes
* a dog collar that lights up at night
* a bedspread that zips down the middle
* safety suspenders that light up at night for joggers or bikers
* a new type of ice cream container
* a new type of rake that allows you to pick up leaves without bending over
* an infant support that prevents a very young baby from falling over
* a glove with a light for signaling turns when riding a bike at night
* a light switch for young children
* a device to hold objects for disabled people who use a walker
* an automatic cat feeder
* an automatic dog washer