Geeky is the new sexy  
- *Udit Khanna, BVCOE*

  
All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. Architects of language must consider revising the proverb because today, for that matter, ‘dull’ boys like Jack build dexterous robotic arms to save a bit of trouble to their mother in the kitchen. No wonder, if some other Jack experiments tomorrow to teleport his father directly to office! Conspicuously, generations have seen a transformation of children’s interest from watching Tom and Jerry and reading Archie’s comics, to watching Dexter’s Laboratory and reading Sherlock Holmes.   
  
Taking a break from the usual entertainment, science-obsessed teens today have a fire in their bellies to untangle mysteries and satisfy their curiosity. As well deserved appreciation, some of the geeks are being bestowed upon worldwide recognition through various platforms. A finalist of the recent Google Science fair, 18 year old **Charalampos Ioannou** from Greece has built a motion-sensing glove that activates motors to boost hand muscles. Far from one’s imagination, the glove’s primary application is to enhance the ability of aged people to grasp everyday objects firmly in their hands. Viney Kumar from Sydney, another high school geek felicitated at the fair has utilized Android mapping technology to create a downloadable application that updates the user if there is any emergency vehicle in the vicinity. Surprisingly, all it took was the lad’s curiosity to know what more than the GPS in his cell-phone should it take to update drivers more quickly than sirens, making way for an ambulance stuck in traffic. If that isn’t astonishing enough, a science student from British Columbia, distressed at the plight of her friend studying without electricity, got engaged into experimenting with solid-state devices. She eventually created a flashlight that runs without any batteries! Just so you know, the girl made ‘Peltier Tiles’ absorb the body’s heat and converted it into electricity.  
  
Teenagers today exploit many wireless systems daily, but not many wonder how to make use of this luxury to meet ‘needs’. Playing around with radio frequency devices, Brad Mager devised a three-dimensional system that alerts caretakers if someone has fallen to the ground. Another similar device built by roboticists integrates obstacle sensors and a Bluetooth device with a walking stick, thus giving crucial warnings to blind people by the use of a headset.  
  
With many such accomplishments being reported daily, it shouldn’t go unnoticed that the wonders marveled by these ‘geeks’ have kindled out of a straight-forward approach, providing solutions that cater to necessity rather than pandering man with luxury. By conceptualizing reality instead of imagination, they teach us an important lesson: Doing science is light-years away from studying science. Yet, all it takes to bridge the gap is curiosity. Geeky, is definitely the new sexy!

