

Inventions and Inventors — People Who Solved Problems

Base Sheet

The child learns about inventors and their inventions, connecting to the week's simple machines theme. By exploring how everyday inventions came to be, the child understands that inventions solve real problems and that anyone can be an inventor.

What You Need:

- Photos or illustrations of famous inventions
- Timeline strip (optional)
- Drawing paper
- Colored pencils
- Books about inventors (optional)

Steps:

1. 'Everything around us was INVENTED by someone! Someone had a problem and thought of a clever solution.'
2. Discuss familiar inventions and their stories:
 - The wheel (ancient Mesopotamia, ~3500 BCE)
 - The light bulb (Thomas Edison — tried 1,000+ times!)
 - Velcro (George de Mestral, inspired by burrs stuck to his dog)
 - The telephone (Alexander Graham Bell)
3. 'What do all inventors have in common? They noticed a problem and kept trying until they solved it!'
4. Connect to simple machines: 'The lever and ramp were some of the FIRST inventions!'
5. 'What problems do YOU notice in your life? What would you invent to solve them?'
6. Child brainstorms and draws an invention idea.
7. Present the invention: what it does, what problem it solves, what materials it needs.

Work Space:



