

Name(s) Cecilia Beckerbauer Period \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Activity Guide - Personal Innovations



Technological innovation is about recognizing a problem that needs to be solved, or recognizing something needs improving and then building a tool to solve it.

As a class we're going to see how innovative we can be, and we'll share our ideas through something called "rapid prototyping." (*Prototype* is a fancy word that means a preliminary sketch of an idea or model for something new. It's the original drawing from which something real might be built or created.)

**First:** Looking at the list of 4 interests at your table, let's think about how technology is impacted by, or related to, those interests.

How could **technology** improve your interest to make it **better, faster, or easier** to use?

What is a **problem**, or aspect of your interest, that a **creative or innovative technology** might **help solve**, or at least make better?

Interest	Improvements	Problems
better economy	more local food in LMICs and LEDCs cheap transportation of food & water	food security
increased overall health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• automate dangerous jobs</li> <li>• allow workers to run machines not do the machines work</li> </ul>	worker safety
less poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• more transportation</li> <li>• cheap technology to introduce new jobs that are better</li> </ul>	development
less inequality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• better schools</li> <li>• better jobs introduced by cheap tech</li> </ul>	education

**Next:** As a group, nominate the idea you've discussed that you think would be the *most interesting* to *everyone else* in the class.

**Start to sketch it out on a poster.** Make a visual representation of your ideas. Remember this is a rapid prototype, just something to quickly convey the idea. Feel free to jot down ideas or sketches in the space below:

### Brainstorming and Notes

Problem: laundry  
combined washer + dryer  
portions mechanic for detergent