

# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Invention Convention



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Guidelines and Invention Packet

# Invention Convention

## Problem

*(What is the problem that needs this invention?)*

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## Solution

*(How does the invention solve the problem?)*

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I approve of my child's choice for the Invention Convention, including the problem statement and solution. *Attach \$3.00 for the cost of the tri-fold display board if you are buying one through the school.*

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Welcome to the Invention Convention!

The Invention Convention is exclusively for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and gives them the opportunity to apply their skills, imagination, and knowledge to create and present their invention at the West Terrace Science Fair.

This packet contains information needed to participate in the Invention Convention.

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## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Fair Invention Convention Checklist

- Decide what your invention will be. See p. 5 and 6 for guidelines.
- Fill out the Problem & Solution page (see p. 2 of this packet), have a parent/guardian sign it, and return it as soon as possible (by Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>).
- Choose to complete either a Display Board or a Weebly website. See p. 5 and 7 for guidance. Turn in \$3 to your teacher if you are buying a Display Board from the school.
- Start making your invention. Take photos during the process to include on your display board or site.
- Create your Display Board or Website. See p. 5 and 7 for guidelines.
- Write your advertisement using PERSUASIVE word choice. See p. 8 of this packet for guidelines. Put it in your shared Google folder.
- Choose to turn your persuasive writing into either a radio or television advertisement. Add it to your shared Google folder, and to your website if you made one. See p. 8 of this packet for guidelines.
- Rehearse your oral presentation. Be ready to take questions from the teacher and/or students afterwards.
- Bring in EVERYTHING on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. This includes your invention, display board, and any other materials needed for your presentation. These items will STAY at school until the Invention Convention on Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. They will be on display for part of Grandparents Day and for other classes in the building.
- All inventions and materials will be sent home with students on Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Plan ahead for help with transportation, if needed.

## **Invention Convention Guidelines**

- Inventions must be the student's own original idea. Adult assistance is acceptable when building the invention, especially with safety and gathering materials, however the actual idea and main effort should be student driven. Please remember, the inventions can include objects, processes, and finding a better way of doing something.
- Safety is a priority. Inventors may NOT include: live animals, matches, open flames, or dangerous chemicals. In addition, electrical outlets are not available. Please keep in mind the safety of the many small children viewing the inventions at the Science Fair.
- The invention display MUST include a prototype or model.

## **Display Board/Website Guidelines**

It must include the following data:

1. Title...Give your invention a name.
2. Problem...What problem does your invention solve?
3. Solution...How does your invention solve the problem?
4. Diagram...Create a colored diagram of your invention. Label each part. This can be created by hand or on the computer.
5. Advertisement...Create an advertisement. You will use persuasive writing to create a script for a radio or television advertisement (see p.7). These advertisements will be viewed during the presentations, and should be included on the website if you make one. The script can be included on the Display Board, and the ad can be set up on your computer next to your display board during Invention Convention, too.

# Developing an Idea

The first step in becoming an inventor is to learn about other inventors and their inventions. Did you ever wonder why the safety pin was invented? Or how toothpaste was packaged before it was put in a tube? Successful inventors always keep an open and curious mind, welcome change, and are looking for a more efficient or easier way of doing things.

Remember, inventors come up with many, many different ideas before they select one to expand on. The more ideas or problems you brainstorm, the more possible inventions.

Need help getting started?

- Observe your environment. Take a look around home, school, your friend's house, or the store. Can you think of ways to improve everyday jobs or tasks?
- Talk with people, interview someone, and always ask questions. Don't be afraid to ask your family, teachers, and community helpers if there's a job, task, or process that has room for improvement.
- What is something in your everyday life that needs a better solution? Is it cleaning up your toys? Is it feeding the dog? Perhaps you can invent a solution to your very own problem!
- Think about the environment. What are some of the big issues facing our environment today? What environmental problems will future generations face? Is there a way you can alleviate those problems?
- Think of problems relating to seasons and weather. Is there something you can invent to improve the removal of snow and ice or removing fallen leaves in autumn?

# Developing the Display Board

The display board MUST be a tri-fold board that can stand up alone. You may get one through the school for \$3 or buy your own at a store.

## TIPS:

1. DO NOT write or draw directly on the board. Instead, write or type the information on printer paper or construction paper and then mount it on the board. Do not use lined notebook or loose leaf paper. Use a straight edge to ensure writing is straight.
2. Mount written information and photos with glue, not tape. Secure the corners so they don't curl up.
3. Add visually appealing color to the display board to highlight important information.
4. Include photos.
5. Be neat and creative.

# Developing the Website

1. Use your Weebly account, or create a new one. (Note: Before the student's site can be published, it often asks for a cell phone number in order to send a verification code. This can be the student's or a parent's. If you are not able/willing to do this, then you should choose a display board instead.
2. Include the Title, Problem, Solution (how your invention solves the problem), Diagrams, Pictures, and the Advertisement. (\*To upload a video using the free account, you have to upload the video to YouTube, then use the link to embed it onto the Weebly page. If you do not have a YouTube account, you can send the video to me, and I will do it for them. I will leave the video as "unlisted" so that it can only be found using the link.
3. Include all information so that the reader can look only at your website and understand everything about your invention.
4. You may include links or extra pages for background information or related history about your invention.
5. Be neat and creative.

## Invention Advertisement

As part of this project, students will use persuasive word choice to write an advertisement for their invention.

*Think: How would you market your invention? Who would buy it? Any slogan or catchy phrases to encourage people to buy it or want to use it? Why would anyone need it? How is it better than what is already available? What would be a reasonable price?*

Students will need to create either a radio ad or a television commercial using this writing. The script needs to be put into their shared Google folder.

Suggested ideas for the advertisement:

- Strong positive word choice
- Repeating words
- Solution-based emphasis

They will be given a small amount of time in class to work, so they will need to have the script prepared to record on their Thinkpad if they do not have a computer/iPad with this ability at home.