



Spark!Lab Dr. InBae Yoon 2019 Invent It Challenge

Think about a new invention that **enhances the daily lives** of older adults.

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Key Steps of the Invention Process



Invention is all about solving problems, so your first step is to identify a problem or challenge you want to work on. Look around you – how could you invent something that enhances and improves the daily lives and activities of older adults? Ask friends, teachers, and family members about aspects of daily life that are important to older adults. Make a list, and choose the one that you want to help enhance or improve with your invention.



If you've identified an aspect of older adults' daily lives and activities that you want to enhance or improve, you're probably not the first inventor to try to create an invention for that purpose! Do some research to learn how others have addressed the issue. What do you like about their solutions, and what do you think you can improve? Think about what your invention will do, who it will be for, and how it will be different from any of the other inventions you read about.



Once you have a basic plan for your invention, make some simple sketches of your idea to show how it might work. Sketching helps you get the idea out of your head and onto paper where you can really see it!



For many inventors, this is the most fun part of the invention process! This is where you create a prototype, or model, of your invention. Using your sketches as a guide, build a prototype. Creating your prototype using materials will help make your ideas visible to others.



Once your prototype is finished, ask friends, teachers, parents, and neighbors to try it or review it. It's even better if you test it with someone who could directly benefit from the invention. What suggestions do they have for making your invention better? Record your findings and make a plan to improve your invention.



Using the feedback you got in the Try It step, identify ways you can improve your invention. Keep working on your invention!



Once you've created your invention, you want people to start using it! How will you convince others to try your invention? Think about your target audience. Then create a "fact sheet" or a video or a written pitch about your invention. What aspect of older adults' daily lives and activities does it enhance or improve? Who should actually use it? How does it work? How is it different from other inventions? Answer these questions to explain how your invention will help older adults!



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