

Invention Convention Guidelines

Put your inventor caps on and start creating! You will be designing and developing your own invention. You will need to create something that has not been created before and make a working model of your invention.

You may choose to work in a group of 1 or 2 people and they must be in your homeroom. Please choose your groups wisely as you will be working with these people quite often!

Each group is responsible for completing:

- ◇ a display board and model of invention
- ◇ a written report
- ◇ an oral presentation
- ◇ a short podcast regarding your invention (this will be done in school in Technology class)

Each individual is responsible for completing:

- ◇ at least 4 interviews/surveys
- ◇ an Inventor's Log

Inventor's Log

Keeping a log is a very important part of the invention process. The log will help you keep track of your ideas, but also can prove that you had an idea first and will help plan your invention. Your logs will need to follow the format that I have given to you and must be completed at least once a week. Each time you complete an entry you will need to have an adult witness and sign your log book. You will need to have at least 8 entries in your log. Some hints for your logbook include:

- ◇ remember to write down your ideas often so you don't forget them
- ◇ be sure to write in ink and do not erase
- ◇ don't leave anything out-your failures are just as important as your successes when inventing
- ◇ your log should include all your ideas, problems, solutions, drawings, survey results, etc.
- ◇ include all your resources that you used-especially people, the internet, books, places, etc.
- ◇ list your costs and receipts for materials used

Written Report

The written report for your invention will need to be typed using a 12 point font and double spaced. The report needs to include the following:

- ◇ A title page that includes the inventor(s) names and grade and the name of the invention
- ◇ A page with drawings and or diagrams necessary to understand the invention (photos may be added here, but the drawing/diagrams are required).
- ◇ In **paragraph format** the following questions should be answered using complete sentences:
 1. How did you think of your idea?
 2. What were your possible solutions?
 3. How did you choose your solution?
 4. What timeline did you follow?
 5. How did you determine that your idea was NEW?
 6. What materials did you use?
 7. Why did you use those specific materials?
 8. Describe the process including all the steps taken to create your invention. Use your Inventor's Log to help you.
 9. What problems did you encounter as you were inventing?
 10. How much would you sell your invention for? Keep in mind the cost of materials and labor.
 11. Any other thoughts or ideas that you want to include to help the evaluators understand your invention.
- ◇ A page citing the resources that you used during your research and inventing process. This should especially include the places you researched to make sure your invention has not already been invented. You must include the websites you accessed and the dates that you used them.
- ◇ You may want to include an acknowledgments page to thank all the people who helped you.
- ◇ You may also include a page that includes expenses and materials used along with receipts.

Display Board

Your display board must be free standing and can be made from poster board, heavy cardboard, wood, pegboard, cork board, or other suitable material. Make sure your display is neatly arranged and lettered. Let the artist in you show through! You will have one table on the day of the convention in which to put your display board and your invention. Your display board needs to include the following:

- ◇ the title of your invention
- ◇ the purpose of your invention
- ◇ a diagram of your invention with labels explaining its parts and how it works
- ◇ photos of your invention

You may want to include:

- ◇ graphs, pictures, magazine clippings that relate to your invention
- ◇ a jingle, song, or poem about your invention
- ◇ results of any surveys and or/research involving your invention

Oral Presentation

The oral presentation will be presented on the day of the Invention Convention to students, teachers, adults, and evaluators. Each group member should have a speaking part. The presentation should be between 2-3 minutes and should include the following:

- ◇ the names of the inventor and the invention
- ◇ the problem the invention addresses
- ◇ the process of developing the invention
- ◇ how the invention works to solve the problem

You should be prepared to answer questions concerning the invention.

Evaluation

You will be evaluated using the INVENT IOWA evaluation rubrics. Please use them as a guide as you are completing the process.

Good Luck! READY, SET, INVENT!!