

Imagination is more important than knowledge, for imagination embraces the world.

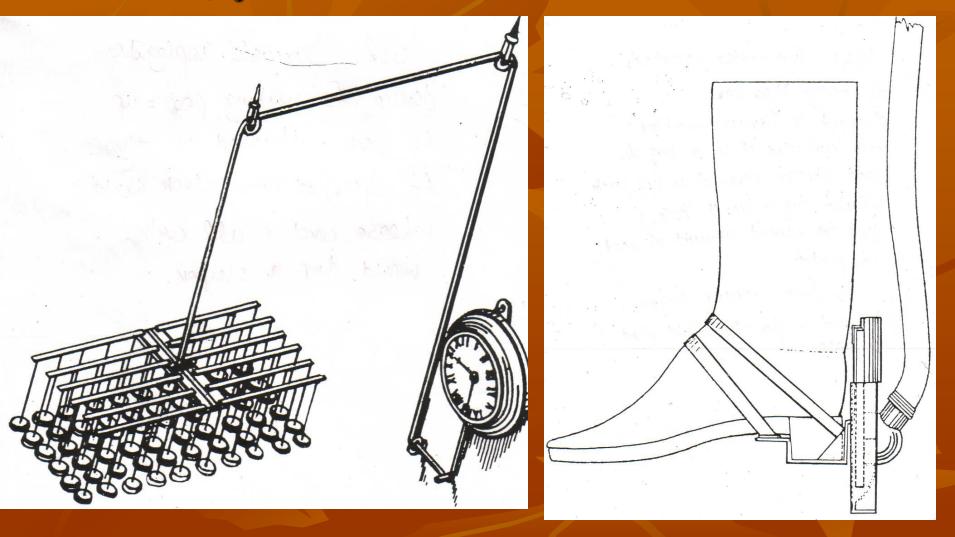
Albert Einstein

What's first?

Our young inventors need an idea. Does the idea have to be totally original? No. While it certainly could be a totally original invention, it could also be an improvement to an existing product or invention.

Here are a two old inventions to help our young inventors come up with an idea. Can you guess what they are?

"Well, you tell me, what are these?"



Well, we have come a long way. Maybe our students can get some ideas by looking at some new inventions.



After we came up with an idea we met with the advisors, Mrs. Earley, Ms. Sawyer, Mrs. Cote, and Mr. Baine, before school on January 10, January 17, and on January 24 To learn everything we needed to know.



Then before school on2/6/14, we brought our Inventions to the Gym to set up the Invention Convention.



Then, after school, we met in the library and got pumped, while the judges got ready. Then



we told the judges everything about our invention with a smile on our face.



"O.K. she got my vote, and so does he."





"What do you mean, I can only vote for one?"

Our finalists



"I made the paper. Too cool."

Student inventions impress

By JOSH MROZINSKI Middletown Press Staff

EAST HAMPTON — Devices displayed Wednesday by Center Elementary School students showed that necessity is the mother of invention no matter the inventor's age.

The inventions were judged by members of the Rotary Club, Senior Center, teachers and high school students. The 10 students who were deemed to have the most ingenious invention will go on to participate in the annual. Connecticut Invention Convention at the University of Connecticut.

"We've been doing this for many years and this is a great thing," said John Baine, a fifth grade teacher who helped to organize the school's invention convention.

Inventions ranged from the tasty to the practical.

After David Field, one of the inventors, shook hands with the judges and introduced himself, he explained that American flags are suppose to be lit at night.

He showed the judges a flag he toped with an improvised solar-powered lighting assembly.

"And this automatically lights at night," said Field, standing beneath the flag. The light, said Field, can

stay lit for 15 hours when



the batteries are ful charged.

Another student, Alexis Haydu, tried to solve a problem that sometimes makes it hard to apply nail polish. Haydu placed a brush in a squeezable plastic tube. Brushes, said Haydu, have to be dipped in regular nail polish containers too many times.

Sometimes an idea for an invention pops into a person's mind when least expected.

Jordan Goodman, who thought of his invention after watching a movie at the theater with his sister, placed a rectangle-shaped of noncorn.

of popcorn. The cardboard, Goodman

explained to the judges Tuesday, allowed him and his sister to eat popcorn with different toppings.

The judges were also shown the lotion helper," a sponge attached to a back scratching stick. Kendra Hayes said she created "the lotion helper" after she could not reach her back to apply lotion.

An adjustable water bottle holder constructed of plastic with Velcro attached to each end was developed by Lauren Drotar.

"I had a lot of fun doing it," Drotar said. "I tried it out and it worked."

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"What's next?"

Then the finalists go to the: CONNECTICUT INVENTION CONVENTION





at the Gampel Pavilion on Saturday, May 3. There will be more than 5,000 people including 650 of Connecticut's best young inventors, representing 120 Connecticut schools. SPECIAL AWARDS 2014

15 Awards of \$50 bonds & Awards Banquet for Student & Parents 4 Awards of Savings Bonds Three Awards of Framed Stamps

Microsoft Accessibility Awards Three Awards of software for the Schools represented by winning Students, plus Encarta software for the student.

DNA EpiCenter Award Family Memberships at 250+ Science Centers & Museums across the globe.

BKFK Marketability Award *Two to Four Awards of Patent Search and Marketability Analysis.*

CT Green Building Council Awards Savings Bonds ATT - Connecticut Technology Award Savings Bonds CT Safety Council Award Six Cash Awards

"Oh my, that's my name, I'm a winner."



And the Patent Prize goes to



Many CIC inventors have appeared on The Ellen DeGeneres show and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno (and hopefully with Jimmy Falon, in the Future).



You never know. One of our students could be the lucky one this year!