

GENRE:
Expository
Nonfiction

YOUNG INVENTORS



by Kathie MacIsaac

Kids have always done amazing things. Here are two young inventors. Think about how their inventions have changed people's lives.

VOCABULARY

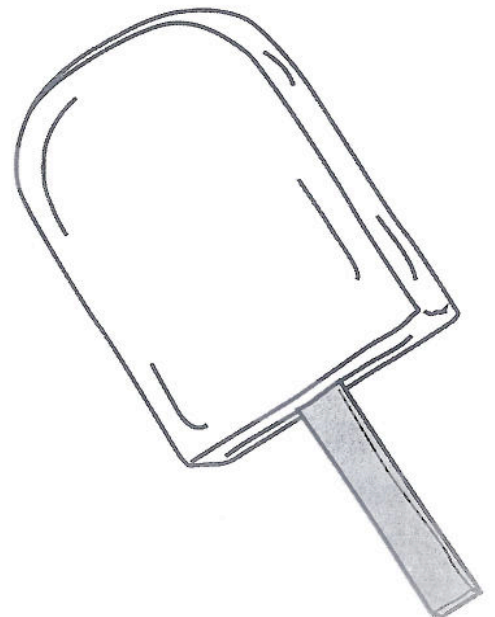
Brew means to mix together.

Frank W. Epperson

Young Frank Epperson liked to brew unusual homemade drinks. One evening in 1905, the temperature in San Francisco dropped below zero. Frank wondered how one of his drinks would taste if it were frozen, so he left some outside in a glass. The next morning, 11-year-old Frank held what he called "a pretty pink frozen lollypop."

Frank's friends loved his invention, but the temperatures didn't drop low enough for Frank to continue his experiments. Without a freezer, he had to abandon his idea. Almost 20 years later, Frank's wife convinced him to experiment again. He created his own freezing machine and used test tubes to mold the "Ep-sicle." In 1924, he received a patent for his invention, which was later renamed the Popsicle.

Hundreds of millions of people enjoy Frank's treat each year. What a great way to cool off in the summer. Thanks, Frank!



VOCABULARY

A *patent* gives a person the right to make or sell something for a certain time.



Chester Greenwood

Fifteen-year-old Chester Greenwood suffered from cold ears every winter. One day in 1873, he decided to do something. He bent a piece of wire to fit his head, formed a loop at each end, and asked his grandmother to sew warm material around the loops. He had invented earmuffs! At last, Chester had toasty ears.

At first, Chester's friends thought he looked silly, but it wasn't long before everyone wanted a pair. Chester replaced the wire with a spring steel band so the earmuffs could fold. He attached hinges to the earflaps for a snug fit. At the age of 18, Chester got a government patent for his "Greenwood's Champion Ear Protectors" and claimed, "I believe perfection has been reached."

In the state of Maine, December 21 is Chester Greenwood Day, in honor of the boy who invented earmuffs.

VOCABULARY

Hinges are made of metal, wood, or plastic and they join two things together so that one of them can swing freely.

Name _____

Date _____

Invention Information



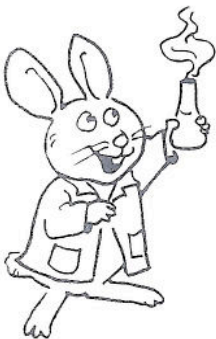
Name for my invention



How my invention will help people



Descriptive words to make my invention sound appealing

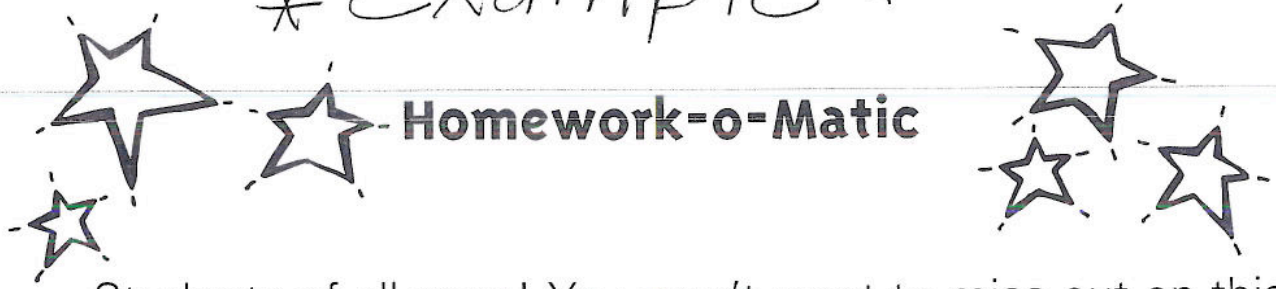


Persuasive words to help convince people to buy my invention



Affordable price for my invention

* example *



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