

When the owner of a toy company called Wild Planet went to meet with some children to talk about how to improve their toys, she asked the children to do some inventive thinking. To start, she asked them what different things could be done with a glove.

A nine-year-old boy named Shahid Minapara instantly had an idea.

"I was thinking about dark," he said, "and then I thought about light, because it is the opposite of dark. Then I saw the glove. I wanted a light on all five fingers."

Shahid made a drawing of his idea. The toy company loved the idea and a new toy was invented. It is called the Light Hand and it is one of Wild Planet's best sellers!

### Find the differences.



Standards Link: Social Science: students understand the contributions of individuals in shaping our economy; the role of interdependence of consumers and producers of goods.

### What a Character!

Ingenious is ...



... solving a problem in a clever or creative way.

### Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **CONTRAPTION**

The noun **contraption** means a gadget or machine, especially one that appears strange.

The climbing **contraption** brought lots of children to the park.

Try to use the word **contraption** today when talking with your friends and family members.

### Write On!

Summer Jokes and Riddles

Tell us your favorite jokes and riddles.

AUGUST IS NATIONAL INVENTOR'S MONTH

# RE-INVENTION

Some inventions started out as something else!

## Pie Tin Toss

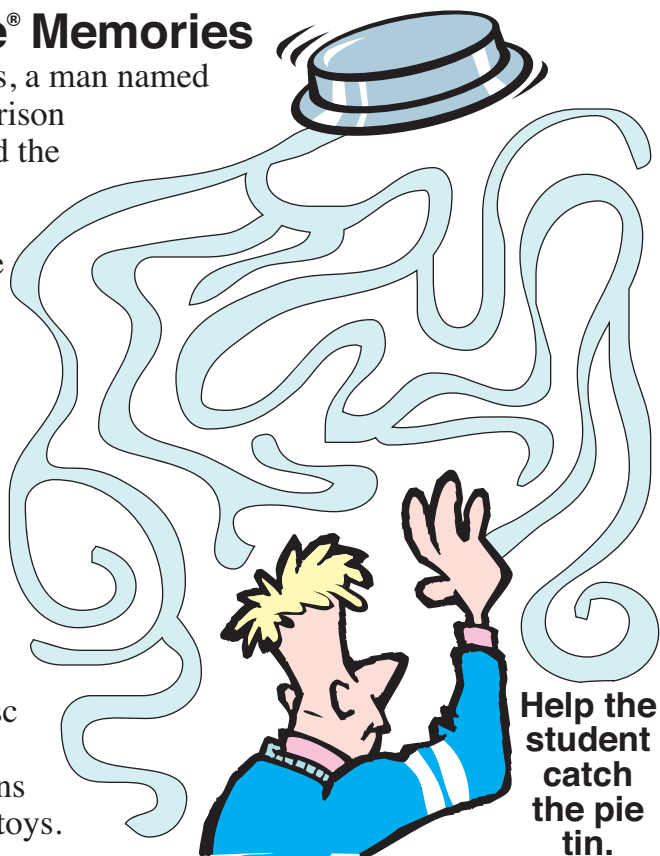
The students at Yale University loved Joseph Frisbee's pies. They even loved his pie tins!

Tossing empty pie tins became a favorite way to pass time between classes. With a firm flick of the wrist, the tin would sort of float through the air.

But the metal pie tins hurt when they hit someone. As a safety measure, students started yelling "Frisbee!" to alert others that they were tossing a tin to a pal.

## Frisbee® Memories

In the 1940s, a man named Walter Morrison remembered the fun he had throwing Frisbee® pie tins while a student at Yale. He invented a way to make a similar throwing toy out of plastic. He called it a Frisbee® disc in memory of the pie tins turned into toys.



Help the student catch the pie tin.

Standards Link: Social Science: Students explore the stories of actual people who have made a difference in their everyday lives and whose contributions have touched them, directly or indirectly.

## Kid Invents the Trampoline

When 11-year-old George Nissen went to see the circus, he had a brainstorm. An invention brainstorm!

The idea literally bounced into his head. He loved watching the trapeze artists and tightrope walkers drop into the safety net and then bounce up and down doing twists, spins and somersaults.

That's what gave him the idea of a "bouncing table" that could be used in a backyard or gym. He worked on his idea for more than 12 years, but finally he came up with a contraption that worked. He called it **trampoline**, from the Spanish word *trampolin*, meaning "springboard."

Standards Link: Vocabulary Development: Students recognize the origins and meanings of foreign words used in English.

Draw the other half of each bouncing kid.

## Science Experiment Creates Toy Sensation

When scientists at General Electric Company were looking for a way to make synthetic (man-made) rubber, they made a gooey mess. The scientists thought the goo was useless.

An ad man from Connecticut had another idea. He saw that the goo could be molded like clay, stretched like taffy and bounced like a rubber ball. He decided to make the goo into a toy.

Solve the math problems to discover the name he gave the goo.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension. Follow simple directions.

5 3 9 9 13 14 6 11 11 13

19 - 6 = Y      6 + 5 = T      14 - 9 = I

6 + 3 = L      6 + 8 = P      12 - 6 = U

16 - 9 = S

### Extra! Extra! Combos

Look through the newspaper for two items that don't seem to go together. Think of ways the two things could be combined to invent something new. Example: A camera and sunglasses.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension. Follow simple written directions.

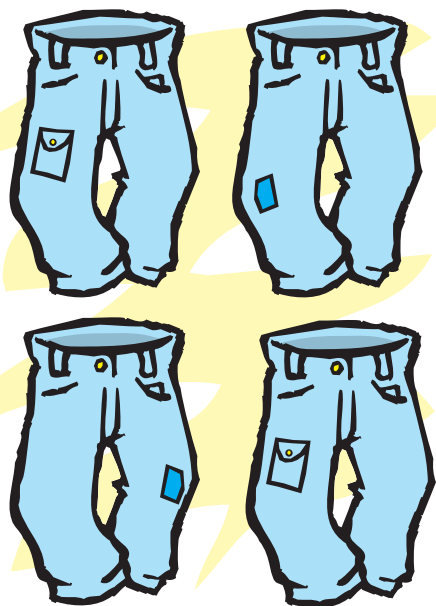
## Tents Turned Into Pants?

Levi Strauss came to California during the Gold Rush to find his fortune. He planned to sell canvas cloth to the miners for tents and wagon covers. But the gold miners needed something else ... pants.

His canvas pants sold as quickly as they were made. Levi gave up the idea of gold mining and ordered more cloth. He had found his fortune.

Standards Link: Social Science: Students understand the role and interdependence of buyers and sellers of goods.

Find the matching jeans.



## Double Double Word Search

TRAMPOLINE  
INVENTION  
FRISBEE  
PANTS  
GOLD  
CAMERA  
EXPERIMENT  
MINERS  
FORTUNE  
NAMED  
LEVI  
IDEA  
TINS  
TOYS  
YALE

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

E X P E R I M E N T  
N N A T A I D O I I  
U A O E N R I E N N  
T A M E T E I A S  
R O R E N B V M T L  
O S Y E D E S N A E  
F I V S L N A I L C  
E N I L O P M A R T  
I V E N G T Y O R F

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognizing identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

## FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

### Invent a Silly News Story

Mix and match news stories to create silly stories. Select a **who**, **what**, **when**, **where**, **why** and **how** from different stories. Write a silly news story with this assortment of facts. Use quotes from other news stories.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write expository essays using newspaper format.

What would you get if you crossed a skunk and a boomerang?

ANSWER: A skunk you couldn't get rid of!



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