



The Nation's Favorite Fun Family Newspaper
Kidsville News! Brainworks Worksheet
September Enrichment Activities
Grades 3-6

CONNECTIONS
Kidsville

Students: After reading "Connections," answer the following questions in complete sentences. Provide as many details as possible.

1. How do inventions help humans?
2. Describe three influential inventions and the impact they had on society.
3. Which of these inventions or another do you feel has had the greatest impact on the world. Why?
4. What is something you would like to see invented? Why?
5. What are some common traits you see in all the inventors you have read about.



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Answer Key



Students: After reading "Connections," answer the following questions in complete sentences. Provide as many details as possible.
 Parents/teachers: Answers are below.

1. How do inventions help humans?

Whether a form of communication, transportation or something else, many inventions have helped ease the human workload. Inventions make life easier for people, create new opportunities and improve a person's quality of life.

2. Describe three influential inventions and the impact they had on society.

The German inventor Johannes Gutenberg made the printing press in the mid-1400s, some 600 years ago. It made it possible for people to have printed materials in the form of books, pamphlets and newspapers for the first time. The printing press brought about the first mechanized printing of ink on paper.

The first gas-powered car was made by a man named Carl Benz in 1879. It was much smaller than the cars of today, with only two seats and three wheels. However, the French inventor Nicolas-Joseph Cugnot actually built the first steam-powered vehicle, in 1770. Automobiles have come a long way since Benz's and Cugnot's first cars. Modern automobiles are much bigger, faster and more efficient in getting people to long-distance locations.

The invention of the telephone in 1876 was groundbreaking. Alexander Graham Bell and Elisha Gray both submitted patents for the invention. Although some historians may favor Gray as the inventor of the first telephone, Bell won in the long run. Bell's patent was approved, and on March 10, 1876, the first telephone call was made.

3. Which of these inventions or another do you feel has had the greatest impact on the world. Why?

Answers will vary.

4. What is something you would like to see invented? Why?

Answers will vary.

5. What are some common traits you see in all the inventors you have read about.

Some of the greatest inventors were all men who lived long ago and created things still making a difference today, even if the things they each made have changed over time. They were competing against other people with good ideas like theirs, but we remember them because they got the patents first. They were all creative, intelligent and patient individuals.



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Answer Key



Students: Use information from the article to match the people and places on the left to the key facts on the right.
 Parents/teachers: Answers are below.

People/Places

Robert Fulton

Sony

Louis Braille

Ken Kutaragi

Eric Bernat

United States of America

Salvador Dali

France

Japan

Spain

Key Facts

Invented Playstation

A surrealist painter who designed the logo for the Chupa Chups lollipops

A place where storekeepers put candy in view of kids for the first time

Lost his sight at age three

Home to the Chesapeake Bay

Invented something to enjoy without getting sticky hands

Improved the steamboat

A Japanese multinational corporation

The home of a man whose invention has helped millions of people read.

This country is a giant in electronics.



