



# 2012 TBD Invention Convention Guidelines

**Please read carefully.**

**Inventors are expected to work hard on their inventions and to put forth their very best effort. However, it should be understood that quality will not be judged. If the student can't complete a task because they don't have the skill or it isn't safe then he/she must come up with another idea. The invention does not have to look perfect or work.**

**The important point is that the work be completed by the inventors and not by anyone else.**

## Criteria

Gold Level	Silver Level	Bronze Level	Certificate Level
Complete all the logs and <b><u>hand in on time</u></b> five of the six required logs.	Complete all the logs and <b><u>hand in on time</u></b> four of the six required logs.	Complete and <b><u>hand in on time</u></b> two of the six required logs.	Complete <b><u>Log 4</u></b> , explaining how the invention was made.
An <b><u>Outside Assistance Form</u></b> signed by both the student and a parent that indicates no help by an adult or older student except for teaching a skill (not on the invention/innovation), getting supplies and helping the student keep track of deadlines.	An <b><u>Outside Assistance Form</u></b> signed by both the student and a parent that indicates no help by an adult or older student except for teaching a skill (not on the invention/innovation), getting supplies and helping the student keep track of deadlines.	An <b><u>Outside Assistance Form</u></b> signed by both the student and a parent that indicates no help by an adult or older student except for teaching a skill (not on the invention/innovation), getting supplies and helping the student keep track of deadlines.	
Explain the invention to a teacher listener on the day of the Invention Convention.	Explain the invention to a teacher listener on the day of the Invention Convention.	Explain the invention to a teacher listener on the day of the Invention Convention.	Explain the invention to a teacher listener on the day of the Invention Convention.

**If you have a partner, both of you must hand in your own logs.**

The Invention Convention will be held at TBD during the day and evening of **Thursday, March 29, 2012**

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# 2012 TBD Invention Convention Guidelines and Calendar

It's a good idea to hand in a copy of each of your logs. All of your logs will be returned at the Invention Convention. You might want to review your previous logs as you go through the invention process.

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Log Due</b>	<b>Friday, February 3, 2012</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Log Due</b>	<b>Friday, February 10, 2012</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Log Due</b>	<b>Friday, February 17, 2012</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Log Due</b>	<b>Friday, March 2, 2012</b>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Log Due</b>	<b>Friday, March 9, 2012</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Log Due and Outside Assistance Form</b>	<b>Friday, March 16, 2012</b>
<b>Invention Convention</b>	<b>Day and Evening - Thursday, March 29, 2012</b> More information about the day's schedule will follow.

# Invention Log 1 Due Date Friday, February 3, 2012

The Invention Convention will be held at TBD during the day and evening of **Thursday, March 29, 2012.**

**Inventor** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Partner** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

Find a problem to solve. Read ***How to Find Problems to Solve*** on the back of Log 1. You may ask family, friends and teachers for possible problems to solve.

**Problem** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Brainstorm some invention ideas that might solve the problem.

- Ideas**
1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. \_\_\_\_\_
  5. \_\_\_\_\_

Pick the best idea.

**Best Idea** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Draw a picture**

## How to Find Problems to Solve



Think about problems you have had organizing things – in desks, school bags, bedroom drawers, closets, etc. How about toys? What could you do to improve the situation?



Talk to your parents and grandparents about household problems, problems they have doing jobs, getting things fixed, reaching things, etc... Listen for times your mother or father says, “There must be a better way to ...”



Take a look around your school. Interview your teacher and other staff members about problems they have doing their jobs. What invention would make things easier at TBD.



If you know a handicapped person, observe their difficulties. Develop some questions to ask people who are handicapped or who work with handicapped individuals.



Walk around the house, garage, basement, etc. Things may “pop out” that could be improved. Taking a walk with a parent can be helpful since ideas can be generated through interaction.



Think of problems relating to seasons and weather. What could improve the removal of snow or leaves? What has been done already?



Go to a gadget section in an automotive store or in the house wares department of K-Mart or even your supermarket. Seeing what has been invented will lead to the generation of many new possibilities.



Check out pet gadgets at local pet shops.



Visit a baby or toddler department in a store.



Think about the environment. What are some things that could be invented to make our environment safer, cleaner, freer of pollutants, etc?

# Invention Log 2 Due Date Friday, February 10, 2012

The Invention Convention will be held at TBD during the day and evening of **Thursday, March 29, 2012.**

**Inventor** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Partner** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Invention/Innovation** \_\_\_\_\_

Does your idea exist? Check stores, the Internet or books. **You may receive help with this task.**

Check three places.

Name of store, website, book etc.	Does the invention exist?	Some proof or parent signature

# Invention Log 3 Due Date Friday, February 17, 2012

The Invention Convention will be held at TBD during the day and evening of **Thursday, March 29, 2012**.

**Inventor** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Partner** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Invention/Innovation** \_\_\_\_\_

Think through your invention. What will it look like? Think of all the details.

**Draw your invention/innovation with all the details.**

What items will you need to make your invention/innovation? Where will you get the item?

**Make a list of items that you will need and where you might find them.**

	<b>Name of Item</b>	<b>Place to Find Item</b>
<b>1</b>		
<b>2</b>		
<b>3</b>		
<b>4</b>		
<b>5</b>		
<b>6</b>		
<b>7</b>		
<b>8</b>		
<b>9</b>		
<b>10</b>		





The Invention Convention will be held at TBD during the day and evening of **Thursday, March 29, 2012.**

**Inventor** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Partner** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Invention/Innovation** \_\_\_\_\_

**Did you make a working invention/innovation? YES** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO** \_\_\_\_\_

If you were able to make a working invention/innovation then you need to test it to see if it works. Then, fill out form below. If your invention/innovation is an idea that you drew, then you need to ask family and friends if your invention solved your stated problem and, **fill out the form on the back.**

**Test Results For Your Invention If It Works**

<b>Test</b>	<b>What happened?</b>
<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	
<b>3</b>	

**Do you need to make any changes to your invention/innovation? Explain.**

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# Invention Log 5 Due Date Friday, March 9, 2012

The Invention Convention will be held at TBD during the day and evening of **Thursday, March 29, 2012.**

Inventor \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Partner \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Invention/Innovation \_\_\_\_\_

Did you make a working invention/innovation? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

## Questionnaire For Your Invention If It Is an Idea You Drew

Ask a family member or friend if your invention solved the stated problem.	Ask the family member or friend if he/she would use your invention if it worked.	What improvements would your family member or friend recommend?
1  YES NO	  YES NO	
2  YES NO	  YES NO	
3  YES NO	  YES NO	

Do you need to make any changes to your invention/innovation? Explain.

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# Invention Log 6 Due Date Friday, March 16, 2012

**Inventor** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Partner** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Invention/Innovation** \_\_\_\_\_

## **INVENTING - COLLECTING DATA**

**Answer the following questions about your invention or innovation:**

1. Describe your invention? (Major parts, material, appearance, weight, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. How can you change any of these characteristics to produce new and better results?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why is it needed? \_\_\_\_\_

4. When is it used? \_\_\_\_\_

5. When can't it be used? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Where is it used? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Where can't it be used? \_\_\_\_\_

8. How is it used? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Who will be the user? \_\_\_\_\_

Who cannot use it? \_\_\_\_\_

10. What are its advantages? \_\_\_\_\_

Can you improve them? \_\_\_\_\_

11. What are its disadvantages? \_\_\_\_\_

Can you correct them? \_\_\_\_\_

12. How does the device work? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Why does it work? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Can your five senses provide additional data?

hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

touch: \_\_\_\_\_

sight: \_\_\_\_\_

smell: \_\_\_\_\_

taste: \_\_\_\_\_

**Look over your responses to the above questions about your invention or innovation very carefully.**



## **Outside Assistance Form**

**Due Date Friday, March 16, 2012**

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Only the inventor (and possible grade level partner) may contribute to the invention solution. All aspects of the invention must be thought up and put together by the inventor. If the inventor is not able to make all aspects of the invention/innovation prototype (model) that was designed then the inventor must redesign the prototype or find another way of constructing it.

Parents may help facilitate the creative thinking, but are not allowed to provide suggestions on what the invention should be and how to create it. Parents may ask thought provoking questions that stimulate thinking, but they should never hint at a solution. For example, instead of stating a question "Wouldn't this be better if you painted it blue," one should ask, "Are there any other colors that you think might work." If the parent's opinion is requested the response should be, "You decide." Unless a situation is potentially dangerous, always let the inventor make the final decision on developing a solution.

Parents and supporters may act as tutors or instructors. They may never work directly on the prototype. They may also provide resources such as books and supplies.

This is a difficult job for parents. It's hard not to offer an opinion or idea when you observe your child going off in a direction that you believe will not work out. You will be surprised to discover that your child will usually come up with a creative idea that never occurred to you. The reward will be greater for your child when he/she creates an invention of his/her own.

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**I understand that I must think of the idea for my invention and create the invention/innovation prototype (model) on my own. I may have one grade level partner who can help.**

**I had help with: (Please describe below any assistance with your invention if you had any. State NONE, if no assistance was received.)**

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**Inventor's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade Level Partner's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_