Inventor’s Notebook
Welcome to Spark!Lab, a hands-on activity center where you’ll learn that invention is a process and that everyone is inventive!

These inventions belong to ...
In Spark!Lab, you’ll learn about each step of the process, and all the fun and hard work that goes into inventing.

**To invent you have to:**

**THINK IT**
Have a great idea for an invention.

**EXPLORE IT**
Investigate inventions and ideas of the past.

**SKETCH IT**
Draw pictures and diagrams to figure out how your invention might work.

**CREATE IT**
Build a prototype or model of your idea.

**TRY IT**
Test your invention.

**TWEAK IT**
Keep improving your idea.

**SELL IT**
Market your invention to people who might buy it.
Inventors keep detailed records of their ideas and the steps they take to create their inventions. Document your invention process here. Use this in Spark!Lab or when you’re inventing at home!

**EXPLORE IT**
Many inventions build off of other ideas. How have other people tried to solve the problem you’re working on? How will your invention be different?

**THINK IT**
Every invention starts with an idea. What’s yours? What problem are you trying to solve?
Can you draw your ideas out on paper? Inventors use pencil and paper to sketch their ideas.
A prototype is a model or a real-life example of your idea. Inventors use simple materials to bring their ideas to life. Create a prototype.

Test your invention. What works well?
How can you improve your prototype? Inventors work to make their ideas better.

Inventors think about how to convince other people to try or buy their invention. How would you talk about your idea to other people?
Have a great idea for an invention after you leave Spark!Lab? Think it, explore it, sketch it, create it, try it, tweak it … and then tell us about it! Take a picture or video of your invention and ask a parent, teacher, or other adult to send it to us:

Please include your first name, age, hometown, and a brief description of your invention. If you are under 13, you must have parental permission to submit your invention.

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