I’m a Child of Appalachia®
2010 Writing Contest
“If you could invent something, what would it be and what problem would it solve?”
The Foundation for Appalachian Ohio (FAO) is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) regional community foundation serving to enrich quality of life in the 32 counties of Appalachian Ohio. Through FAO, Appalachian Ohio citizens work regionally to attract and maximize investments, leverage economies of scale and access resources not otherwise available in their communities. After twelve years of success advancing a variety of quality of life initiatives, FAO is now implementing a ten year focus on the region’s educational advancement.

The basis for FAO’s strategic focus on education is that educational attainment and prosperity are closely correlated; increasing access to educational opportunities is the most effective way the region will realize lasting transformations in quality of life. By creating near-term and permanent educational resources, FAO helps today’s students succeed, while ensuring the region builds vital capacity and necessary stability to leverage present success into future success.

In response to the unique needs and opportunities of our region, FAO’s educational focus is delivered through five strategic categories of investment. FAO invests to:

1. Inspire Confidence in the Young and Young at Heart;
2. Support Educators, Especially Teachers;
3. Help Families Prepare for Educational Success;
4. Grow and Leverage Educational Philanthropy; and
5. Partner with Others to Strengthen the Infrastructure of Educational Success.

Through these strategies, FAO is working to ensure Appalachian Ohio achieves a thriving economy, educational excellence and cultural enrichment.

The Foundation’s I’m a Child of Appalachia® Writing Contest, part of the Foundation’s broader I’m a Child of Appalachia® program, helps our region overcome barriers to educational opportunities and annually encourages thousands of students to reflect on their ability to succeed in educational and community endeavors. The contest leverages multiple benefits, including learning opportunities for students; grants to current teachers to support creative curriculum development efforts; and classroom field trips. Through the I’m a Child of Appalachia® initiative, Appalachian Ohio is strategically investing to accelerate the region’s educational attainment and create the building blocks necessary for long-term prosperity.

The Foundation hopes you enjoy reading these inspiring essays and poems from our region’s youth and to learn more about the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio, please visit www.appalachianohio.org or call 740.753.1111.
Brody Sauer
Green Elementary ~ Ms. Saunders ~ Gallia County
Aquarihome

Many people love the ocean. They vacation there and take cruises, watch TV shows about the ocean, and write books about sea life. So, wouldn’t it be neat to live there? If I could invent something, it would be an underwater home. It would sort of be like living in an aquarium. The home would be able to withstand the pressure of the ocean. You would need to come to the surface for food, supplies or to visit friends. There would be an air tight elevator to bring friends to visit or if you needed a repairman or plumber. This would also cycle needed air to your home. An ocean pressure powered generator would provide power to your home as well.

Unfortunately, our world is faced with a problem called “global warming”. Scientists believe the earth is getting warmer and the ice caps are melting. So, more water is covering earth’s land where people live and work. My invention would solve the space problem for homes as global warming occurs.

Ireland Morton
Nelsonville York ~ Ms. Yinger ~ Athens County
The Robot Me

My problem is that I have a lot of homework and a lot of chores and also have to help with my brother; but I haven’t seen my best friend. What will I do? I will make a duplicate robot of myself. The robot will do my homework, my chores, and even play with my little brother while I am at the movies with my best friend. To make the robot I will use empty pop cans. I will put them in a big compressor that will mold them into the shape of a human body. Then I will paint the robot a skin color and put a wig on it and some of my favorite clothes. I will have to find a doctor to duplicate my brain though so the robot will not only look like me but think like me too. What if my mom finds out? Knowing my mom at first she will be upset and say that I am not learning anything because I have a robot doing all my work. Then she will want a robot of herself too so she can stop doing all that work and start having more fun!

Kae-Lynn Murphy
Millersburg Elementary ~ Ms. Knapp ~ Holmes County
The Book Reader

When you have a book and you put it in a machine it will read the whole book for you. Also if you want to summarize, or answer a question, it will print it out for you. Then, if you want, you can put the book by the screen and it will tell you info.
**Madeleine Morton**  
*Washington Elementary ~ Ms. Mahan ~ Trumbull County*

**Self-Buttering Toaster**

If I could invent something, it would be a toaster that automatically buttered the bread after it was toasted. I think having the toast automatically buttered would not only save time in the morning but it would also not dirty a knife.

The self-buttering toaster would have a tray to keep the butter in. The butter would melt each time the toaster heated up. Once the toast was finished, it would pop into the tray where the melted butter was. The toast would then be buttered and ready to eat.

Besides saving time and not dirtying a knife, another problem that would be solved with my self-buttering toaster is that the butter would always be melted. Melted butter would make buttering the bread easier. When I butter toast now, sometimes the butter is too hard and it tears up the toast.

If you wanted to toast something that you didn’t want buttered like a Pop Tart, you would press the skip button. This would not let the toasted item pop into the butter tray so it wouldn’t get buttered.

I think the self-buttering toaster sounds like a pretty good invention!

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**Mallory Johnson**  
*Southern Elementary ~ Ms. Barr ~ Meigs County*

If I could invent something, I’d invent something called the “Ambidextrous Gripper.” Ambidextrous means “being able to do things equally with both hands.” The “Ambidextrous Gripper” would help people dribble basketballs and write, and do all sorts of things with both hands. This could help people with broken or paralyzed arms and hands. This device grips both wrists and has a remote to release or loosen or tighten cuffs and the bar. The device would let you do things with both hands at the same time too. The device could help everybody from paralyzed to children.

The “Ambidextrous Gripper” would help elderly, adults and babies too. Being ambidextrous is important. You could get a paralyzed arm and use the “Ambidextrous Gripper” for physical therapy. The “Ambidextrous Gripper” would be a great invention.

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**Sarah Lipscomb**  
*Homeschool Student ~ Jackson County*

I’ve thought about this idea lots. If I could invent something I would invent a wind powered car. It would have several fans in a half circle shape on the roof that catch air and turn it into energy. It would look like a hood scoop only on the roof. Before you got in you would spin the fan blades, like on an old airplane then hop in and turn it on. Once you started moving the wind generated would power the car. This would solve the problem of high gas prices and the loss of fossil fuels.

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**Kate Brand**  
*Rock Creek Elementary ~ Mrs. Moody ~ Ashtabula County*

**Army, Navy, and Air Force Robot**

If I invented something that solved a problem, I would invent the Army, Navy, and Air Force Robot. This robot would help armed men and women fight if they were at war. It would also make sure the people in the American army rather than the foreign army, were kept safe and sound, but if they were wounded, which is very rare with this robot on hand, it would race them back to their families so the families could help them.

In order to do this the robot would turn into a jet-plane and put the person inside it if they were wounded. The robot would be made out of titanium and be super fast so it could shield people at war. This robot would solve the problem of people losing family members in a war. I think the Army, Navy, and Air Force Robot would be great for armed people and I hope you agree with me.

I wrote this in honor of my grandpa who was in the Vietnam War and my uncles and aunts who are in the service now. Especially my uncles who are overseas, that I want to come home safely.

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**Jacob Easter**  
*Wheelersburg Middle School ~ Ms. Bentley ~ Scioto County*

**Super Body Armor**

Let me tell you about a really great invention. It is called the Super Body Armor. When I learned about all of the people who have died in the wars, I wanted to come up with some kind of armor to protect a soldier’s whole body even the bottom of his feet.

The armor could be made out of some kind of metal that doesn’t melt very easily. If you would be near a volcano, the suit would protect you from the heat off of the lava and you would even be able to walk across the lava if you needed to. The suit would also allow you to go under water. It has its own built-in-air-tank that lets you breathe under water. It has a built-in computer inside the helmet that connects to your brain and you control it with your mind. The part that’s on your feet can change into flippers and the gloves are webbed to help you swim. It would make a good suit for outer space, too. There could be a jet-pack on the back of the suit to help you move around up there.

When you have the armor on, you would look like a robot. There would be a button on each side of your neck that you would push to make the mask lift up off of your face and to come back down.

I think this would be a really good invention because it would keep people from getting hurt or dying and that would make everyone stay happy.
Abbi Barcus  
_Buckeye North Elementary ~ Ms. Bartruq ~ Jefferson County_

**My Invention**

When I wake up in the morning I’m crabby and tired. The last thing I want to do is cook my breakfast. I’m sure my mom feels the same way, as do many other moms. My idea to solve this problem is the “Breakfast Maker.” This machine would sit on the kitchen counter; you would walk up to it, and press buttons which name all kinds of breakfast foods. When you press the button of the kind of food you want, it will make it for you. For example, if you pick cereal, the machine will pour the cereal and milk right in a bowl that you place under a spout. It will even pour your milk or juice! Now you don’t have to work in the kitchen every morning, and you’ll have more time to get ready for school or work. How cool is that?

Hailie Peterson  
_Byesville Elementary ~ Ms. Orr ~ Guernsey County_

If I could invent something it would be called The Animal Translator 2000. Unlike any other invention this would allow humans to communicate with their pets. Through advanced technology, sound waves from your animal would be transmitted into the translator. While in the translator, high tech voice processors record both the pitch and tone of your animal’s voice. This results in the translation of your animal’s bark, cry or meow allowing you to understand your pets’ needs.

The components of this clever device include a microphone, a speaker, voice coils and a dual core processor from Microsoft. The translator was assembled and tested by scientists in China and Japan and it passed all tests. It should be available for sale in late 2012. Look for the Animal Translator from Microsoft.

Heath Bidwell  
_Millcreek Elementary ~ Ms. Hoskinson ~ Perry County_

**The Next Stop**

If I could solve any problem I would like to solve air pollution. This problem needs solved because it is not good for the environment. I would solve this issue by inventing a car stop for electric cars.

My invention is an electric car stop for electric cars. The invention will have outlets that will take five minutes to charge the electric cars. It will run on solar panels, but if it is cloudy, it will run on wind. Two cars can plug into one outlet and six outlets will be at one stop.

This invention helps everyone to begin with; the electric is easy to buy. It is good for the air. Last it does not pollute the Earth. I think this invention will be good for the Earth, good for driving, and also good for your family.

Claire Barnett  
_East Elementary ~ Ms. Pryor ~ Tuscarawas County_

**Barnett Toothpaste Dispenser!**

The Barnett Toothpaste Dispenser is my invention. My invention is gold and shaped like a hand. When you press the thumb you get mint toothpaste. If you press the pointer finger you get cinnamon toothpaste. If you press the middle finger you get Colgate whitening toothpaste. If you press the ring finger you get bubble gum. On the last finger, the pinkie, you get Crest kids and when you press the palm you get mouthwash.

The Barnett Toothpaste Dispenser is great when flu season is here. Usually when you put your toothpaste on your toothbrush it touches the brush and then you get germs on the top of the toothpaste bottle. Also with my invention you do not have to keep buying toothpaste.

This is my invention. I hope you like it!!

Kendall Fee  
_West Elementary ~ Mr. Ward ~ Vinton County_

**My Invention**

My invention is The Complete Laundry Machine. To make it, you need a big steel box, electric motors, a computer, cameras, and a conveyor belt. It solves the separating, the washing, the drying, and the folding of laundry.

It solves this problem by separating the clothes by color, size, and shape. It takes the laundry, washes it and then it dries it. There are arms that fold the laundry. It comes out on a conveyor belt and is dropped into a neat pile. You have to open a door on the top and put the dirty laundry in.

This invention saves you time for more important things in your life. It only takes a few minutes for it to do everything! If you buy one now you will get a box of super strong dryer sheets!

Kristin Boshears  
_Dawson Bryant Elementary ~ Ms. Deer ~ Lawrence County_

**My Invention**

If I could invent anything it would be a GPS locator for children. It would be a small flat device you place inside their shoes. How it works, you take the device to your local Police station, they scan and record the tracking number after it’s in their system for lost and missing children.

That’s when you lift the liners in their shoes you lay it flat down and replace the liners back inside their shoes. The reason for this invention is to prevent kidnappings, lost and missing children and to save children’s lives. Children missing 48 to 72 hours are most likely to never be found.

This device is to cut that time in half from hours and days down to minutes and hours. Soon as the parents realize their child is missing they notify the police. After entering the child’s tracking number it shows the exact location of the child so it can be brought home safe and sound.

This device would be priced affordable because no matter the family’s financial income every child deserves to be safe. I hope you can see the safety behind my idea as much as I do.
Nick Lyons  
Dobbins Elementary ~ Ms. Morlan ~ Mahoning County

My invention is the Great Heat Boots. I wanted to make this invention because of the problem of having cold, wet feet in boots during the winter. This problem causes sickness and not being able to enjoy being outside.

Great Heat Boots come in many sizes for all ages. There are many color choices including black, white, red, green, blue, purple, orange, yellow, and multicolored. They are made of rubber with the bottom of the boots having zigzag grooves so you won’t slip.

The boots have a little knob on them that you twist to hot, warm, dry, or all. The hot and warm choices are to keep your feet warm and toasty, and the dry one keeps your feet dry inside the boots so you won’t get fungi like athlete’s foot. The all choice is especially good when playing in the snow, sled riding, or shoveling snow.

The Great Heat Boots only cost seventeen dollars which is a terrific price for a great USA made product. Computer chips and batteries make the boots work.

A lot of people will want to purchase these Great Heat Boots and will like them. You will love them too and be amazed.

Cole A. Cognition  
Ridgewood Middle School ~ Ms. McPherson ~ Coshocton County

If I were to invent something to solve a problem, I would invent a helmet for people who cannot understand languages from different countries. This helmet would have buttons for all of the languages. You simply push what language you want translated, and the brain would recognize the signal and start interpreting the words.

This helmet could translate what a person is saying into the foreign language they are used to. For example, if an English speaking person were talking to a German speaking person, the words would be immediately translated so the German person could understand. It would obviously work both ways. How cool would that be?

I believe this helmet could solve many problems. First the brain tends to become more active and exposed to new ideas and challenges. Second, people who are able to communicate more effectively tend to want to learn more things. Third, it would help us learn more about foreign cultures. Last, and most importantly, it would allow our military to communicate with Non-English speaking people.

As you can see, this invention could change our world in many great ways. Who knows? It may be just what we need for a brighter future!

Katelyn Huck  
Skyvue Elementary ~ Ms. Binegar ~ Monroe County

My Invention

I enjoy reading. I keep all my books on shelves in a bookcase. The problem is that I cannot always find the books I want. If I could invent something, I would make a bookshelf that could easily find the books I want when I want them.

My invention would be a bookshelf with an attached touch screen. The touch screen would list books by topic, title or author. I would be able to touch the screen. My desired book or books would drop into a bin at the bottom of the bookshelf. This would allow me to always be able to find the right book at the right time.

John Slater  
Bishop Flaget ~ Ms. Ames ~ Ross County

The Gutter Grinder

Do you have gutters that run over every time it rains because they are clogged with leaves and debris from trees? Do you hate to go up the ladder to clean them? Then I have the thing for you! It’s the Gutter Grinder. Here’s how it works:

The Gutter Grinder is solar powered, so you need no cords or batteries. Open the control panel on the bottom of the unit to set the timer so that it cleans out the gutters as often as you like. The unit looks like a tiny lawn mower and works like your vacuum cleaner’s beater brush, except there are blades where the beater brush would be. You simply set it up in the gutter, using the edges of the gutters as “rails.” Once it is set on the “rails,” the unit will travel down the gutter, grinding up leaves and blowing them out onto the grass as fertilizer.

You will never have to clean the gutters again. The Gutter Grinder is here!

Keegan Bumpus  
Dresden Elementary ~ Ms. Lawyer ~ Muskingum County

The Eliminator 2000

What’s wrong, too many robberies? Well, my invention can help. It is called The Eliminator 2000.

It is designed for all robbers. There is a spy eye and it senses them. When the robber is detected by the sensors, it calls the police and also activates spy cameras. The cameras will help identify robbers in case they leave before the police arrive. Here is exactly how it works. My invention has state of the art mind reading technology. The spy eye scans the person to determine if the people are good or evil. If they are evil The Eliminator knows right away. It lets out a blazing beep and hypnotizes the intruder. The hypnotized intruder is led to The Eliminator. When The Eliminator is activated, all doors and windows are locked. Now the intruder is trapped inside the house. Then a panel is slid open and the robber falls into the hole. The panel slides closed and the intruder is eliminated. So, the intruder is trapped in the hole until the police arrive. The Eliminator will eliminate your worries of getting robbed anymore. Your family will be safe and you will sleep well.
Elizabeth McCarthy
Batavia Elementary ~ Ms. Clifford ~ Clermont County

If I could invent anything I would invent a study guiding robot. I would invent the robot to help parents and children all across the world. My robot would put an end to disturbances all over the globe with parents and their children and, or (child). What I am at least trying to say is that my robot, in my own opinion, would be spectacular but, I’m not you and you aren’t me so I will leave you to decide how I did. My robot would also make a mother or father’s day. I think it really would because if it makes my mother happy it would probably make yours also.

My life has been so stressful with all this fourth grade homework. That’s when it hit me that I could actually win the prizes but, prizes weren’t on my list for what I wanted for Christmas. So now you see that I just wanted to test my thinking abilities. It’s just me trying to get my invention published and help kids all over the world because I want to show them they can make a difference.

I hope my speech inspired you… Good greetings!

Maddie Dubiel
Union Local Elementary ~ Ms. Miller ~ Belmont County

My invention would solve cleaning your room or house, which can be difficult. For example, my mom does not have enough time because she has to watch my baby brother. So, I would invent a robot that cleans all day.

My robot could be helpful in many ways. It saves power by never running out of battery because it’s solar powered. All you would have to do is push a button and then you’re done. It would be small so when it’s done you can put it under a bed or in a closet. It would be flexible so it can squeeze in between places. It would have a basket on its back so it would just pick the item up and put it in its basket. Then when it reached its place it would take the item out and put it back. The robot would also have its own special elevator that allows it to go up and down the stairs.

My invention would make our life better by giving us more time to do the things we want, like spending time with our family. This invention would also make things better by saving energy.

Kathryn Chludzinski
McKinley Elementary ~ Ms. Washam ~ Columbiana County

If I could invent something, I would invent the “Intersection spy”. It would solve the problem of intersections that are hard to see.

An “Intersection spy” is a camera that records the movements of cars. The camera is placed in parts that are hard to see or at the corners of the road. There is a TV at the intersection that shows what the camera picks up. Then the driver can see what is going on in the other road(s). It is necessary because sometimes drivers cannot see the other road(s) due to obstacles. Drivers who cannot see may collide with other cars.

An “Intersection spy” can cause less car wrecks. It could be helpful to show what drivers need to know about the tough intersections they encounter.

Kyler Taylor
East Elementary ~ Ms. Hook ~ Morgan County

My Perfect Invention

My perfect invention would be a transporter. It would cut down on, if not eliminate, air pollution, noise pollution, motor oil, energy cost and gasoline use. The transporter will be used to move people and their belongings from one place to another.

One of the many uses for my transporter would be to get people to work and home faster. It would zap them from place to place faster and safer than any other form of transportation we have available today. If you are next to a life or death situation you could transport the person in need out of harm’s way.

My transporter would be a small handheld device. It would be small enough to fit in your back pocket or pocketbook. It would be about the size of a cell phone, which people normally carry today.

I would name my invention the Speed-O-Port. I would name it that because it can speedily transport anything. The first one would be the Speed-O-Port1 then as the models improve it would be the Speed-O-Port2 and so on.

My transporter would help families across the United State of America.
What Would I Invent?

If I could invent something to benefit others (and to make housework easier, if I might add!) I would invent the... (dramatic pause)... SuperSorter5000! (also known as the “SS5”)

Are you tired of sorting your dirty laundry by hand? Well, with the SS5, there will be no more of that. With just the click of an ON switch, the SS5 would reach out its amazing robotic arm and sort your dirty laundry into perfect color categories! And when I say perfect, I mean perfect. No more accidental red socks in with your white clothes!

There would be 4 buttons, 1-just whites, 2.-just darks, 3.-just lights and 4.-rainbow. If you set the SS5 to “Just Whites,” you get a pile of white clothes sorted from every other color. If you set the SS5 to “Just Darks,” you get a pile of dark clothes sorted from everything else. If you set it to “Just Lights,” you get a pile of light clothes, and if you set it to “Rainbow,” every color is sorted to its own category.

This invention would be great for... moms, hippies, maids, hobos, the elderly and the poor eye sighted.

BONUS!!!! Order your SuperSorter5,000 now for $99.95 and get a free 1999 penny in a custom frame of your choice! So call now!

And that is what I, Fern Wentzel, would invent.

The Insulin Patch

I’ve often wondered how we could help people who rely on medical interventions to survive. Knowing people personally who struggle with diabetes, my invention would be an insulin patch.

This patch would be adhesive and have insulin on the side against the skin. The insulin would be time released through the skin and into the body.

Current injection aids that are available today are needles, insulin pens, external insulin pumps, and injection ports. All of these options involve being stuck with needles. Having to give yourself shots can be painful. Insulin pumps have to be worn on the body most of the time. It can be removed for short periods of time. Insulin patches would give more freedom than those options.

Additionally, many people with diabetes who need insulin use needles and syringes to inject insulin under the skin. An insulin patch would be less painful and cumbersome than the other options. An insulin patch would work similar to a nicotine patch, releasing the required dosage of insulin into the body.

To sum it up, insulin patches would be a great invention for diabetics. The patches would regulate the body’s glucose level without the use of needles.
Hi, my name is Andrea P. Bungard. I am a child of Appalachia. I am 10 years old and in the fifth grade at Leona Middle School in Shadyside, Ohio where I live. I am involved in dreaming, scheming, believing, and achieving because I want to save my father’s life. He is 33 years old and has Hairy Cell Leukemia, a rare cancer which occurs in mostly men 55 years old or older. My father was diagnosed with this form of cancer in August of this year, 2010. He has been hurting for years and he drank to cover up the pain. Since doctors couldn’t find out what the problem was, my aunt had him committed to an alcohol prevention program and saved his life. That is where a wonderful doctor researched and found he did have pain. His internal organs were swollen. Dr. Vasquez was determined to find out what was wrong and he did. My father has had chemotherapy for five weeks. He’s a lot better but not cured. They say there is no cure so if I could invent something out of plants, weeds, insects or whatever it would take, I would save people’s lives.

Anaka Theodosopulos
Central Elementary ~ Ms. Winnett/Ms. Taylor ~ Guernsey County

My Invention ~ the Freeze Bracelet

It’s pretty late at night. Your friends turned down the street they live on and you’re walking alone. Then you hear crunching leaves behind you, faster than you are walking. So you start running. Then someone’s hands grab you. Then you remember your freeze bracelet.

A freeze bracelet is a bracelet that can freeze people, just by the touch of a button. The bracelet is specially made to freeze someone for up to two hours.

That is the invention I would make. It could solve horrible crimes such as robberies, kidnappings, etc. All you have to do is repeat pressing the button. For example, if you needed to freeze the robber, kidnapper, etc. for two hours (which is the maximum) you would press the button twelve times. Plus if you press the button one time you can freeze the person for ten minutes.

So when you remember your freeze bracelet it can make a big difference in everyone’s life. Especially yours!

Robert Adams
Beaver Local ~ Ms. Meek ~ Columbiana County

The Fish-Enator

I have a great invention that will help you catch fish faster than ever before. My invention is called The Fish Enator. It helps you fish ten times faster. You will get a fish in only one minute.

It is in a can. You spray it on any bait. The only thing that you need to do is hold the bait in your hand for ten seconds while you spray it on. Then you put the bait on the hook. Then you cast your line out and get ready to reel in a big fish. One spray will catch three fish. In just one hour you will catch 180 fish. Just spray again and you will get three more in one minute. That’s pretty good for one hour! With any $5.00 Fish-Enator, you will be sure to catch lots of fish and save lots of time. That leaves time for more fun.

Lindsey Mason
Crooksville Elementary ~ Ms. Filkins ~ Perry County

My Invention!

If I could invent something it would be a diabetic meter where you wouldn’t have to poke your finger. The problem it would solve is not having to poke yourself every single day and you could just breathe into the meter and it would read your blood-sugar. It would also be helpful because my friend, Jalyn, who is only ten years old, got diagnosed last year with it. It really stinks because my friend can’t eat as much candy as many other people or she will get high. I feel really bad for her because she has to go get it checked three or four times a day, every day. But, she seems really happy.

Well, this is my invention and that would be awesome if it was invented. It would also be awesome because my mom has diabetes too and she pricks her finger three or four times a day and she’s been doing it for many years. That has to hurt really badly.

Alyssa Proehl
Southview School ~ Ms. Moore ~ Jackson County

Recycling Trash Truck

If I could invent something it would be a recycling trash truck. It would be the same shape and size as regular trash trucks, but the colors would be different. Instead of it being just plain white, it would be blue and green. The whole entire truck would be blue and the writing would be green. It would say “Recycling Trash Truck” on it. Instead of putting out the red recycling bins, you could just put recyclable stuff with your trash. It would come by and pick up the trash and separate the recyclable stuff and the trash. Then it would sort the papers, plastic, metal, and glass. It would have four different tubes; one for paper, one for plastic, one for metal, and one for glass. It would send them down the tubes and go straight to the Recycling Center. It would solve that everybody will start recycling and together we will help save the earth!

Jason Abraham
Millersburg Elementary ~ Ms. Frase ~ Holmes County

The Pulpinator 5000

Do you not like pulp in your citrus drinks or fruits? Well, I have a solution for you that is better than any other, its name is the Pulpinator 5000. The reason I am creating this robot is to de-pulp citrus fruits to then be made into a drink.

The robot is a square shape that has two arms. It is two feet tall and can speak every language. When you want the robot to de-pulp your fruit you simply ask it to do it. Next the robot will cut the citrus fruit in half and use its specially made shaver to shave the pulp right off the fruit you want to eat and the drink you want to enjoy.
Madison Dodd
Larry Miller Intermediate  ~  Ms. Larson  ~  Muskingum County

The Bicycle Mower

If I could invent something, it would be the Bicycle Mower. It would look like a bicycle except that it would have something hooked to the back wheel. That thing would be the mower. It would be low to the ground with sharp blades on the bottom to cut the grass.

There would be at least three benefits that you would get out of the Bicycle Mower. The first would be that you would get your grass cut. This would make your lawn look nice. The second would be that you’d get a workout. You could become healthy. The third would be you save money on gasoline. By not buying gasoline, you would save fossil fuels. You can go green. If you were ever to get tired and thirsty, you can clip on a water bottle holder on the bike and always have water with you.

The mower part would be detachable. You can hook it to any bike and take it off. This would allow you to mow your grass and take a ride in the park. The Bicycle Mower will help to mow your grass, go green, and get a workout.

Grace Ann Brownsberger
Lynchburg Clay Elementary  ~  Ms. Vesey  ~  Highland County

My Allergy Cloth

When I was little I invented an allergy cloth that takes off oils from my itchy eyes. All you need is lotion and a paper towel. I am allergic to the oils on pet hair, so my eyes get really itchy.

To make my allergy cloth, first I wet a paper towel. Next, I rub lotion all over the paper towel. After that I wash the paper towel again. Finally, I fold the paper towel into fourths and hold it on my eye. The allergy cloth gently rubs off the oils on my eye that came from my hands when I rubbed my eyes after playing with pets.

My allergy cloth is a great invention because it makes playing with pets easy and fun!

Khylee Shae Keaton
Dawson Bryant Elementary  ~  Ms. Back  ~  Lawrence County

Eyes That See In The Dark

Do you wear glasses? If you do, don’t ever be caught in the dark again. This invention promises that you will never again find yourself stumbling alone in the darkness.

If you wear glasses, there is nothing worse than getting up in the middle of the night, or walking into a dark room. With these new eyeglasses by “Khylee”, all you need do is press the tiny button on the side, where the stem attaches to the frame, and let your little lights shine. Hidden, so small, on each side of the nose piece are two ultra-bright, florescent lights that will fill the room. No more stumbling, tripping, or falling in the middle of the night, to find a light.

Young and old, big and tall, walk in the light, and find yourself always standing up-right, with eyeglasses by “Khylee”.

Mason Rose
Northwest Elementary  ~  Ms. Teufel  ~  Scioto County

Nanobots

If I were to invent something to change the world, it would be nanobot technology. My invention is to end war and protect our people.

Nanobots are little tiny robots that you can put into a needle and inject into humans or other beings. When put into a life form, they heal wounds, illnesses, cancers, blindness and mend skeletal and muscular systems.

Also, nanobots can be placed into a friendly glass and plastic bomb or rocket. Upon explosion, they eat any and all types of metal including rebar and copper, thus taking out the weapons, radio transmissions and transports of the enemy.

The nanobots come with a remote kill switch. When inside a being, they will travel into the bowel system and self destruct without causing harm to the life form. The disabled nanobots will be expelled through the bowels. While they are in our weapons, we will have the power to disable them, if necessary. Thus preventing self harm and reigning control.

Hana Marcum
Southwestern Elementary  ~  Mrs. Walker  ~  Gallia County

My Invention

If I could invent something I would invent a censored cell phone. The reason is that a lot of people are dying from texting while driving. My invention will have a device in it so it knows when you are driving and it will not let you use it while you are driving. It will not let you talk, text or do anything while you are driving. But if you have a car crash or an emergency, a little alarm will go off and you will be able to call for help or whatever you need to do involving the emergency.

I feel that my invention will save the lives of people every year, every day and every second from dying because of texting and driving or talking and driving.

Sharlyn Sinift
Logan Hocking Middle School  ~  Ms. Hayward  ~  Hocking County

Frisbee Flying Shoes

Do your feet ever get tired of walking? Why don’t you try the new Frisbee Flying Shoes? The problem with tired feet needs to be fixed because too many people come home with aching feet. When they walk, they are wasting too much energy, which some people think is good for them. But what they don’t know is that they need to walk but on ground it causes more tension on their feet. The problem is, this makes their feet ache!

This is how Frisbee Flying Shoes work. There are wings on the side of your shoes and at the bottom, there’s a Frisbee. In the Frisbee, there is a fan. When you turn the fan to high, it should start to fly. You are probably wondering what the wings are for. The wings are for when you start to fly in the air. They help you fly.
DIANA GOMEZ  
*Carrollton Elementary ~ Ms. Oldfield ~ Carroll County*

**Omb-Bomb**

Don’t be fooled by the name, it may sound dangerous but it actually helps the world! This metal ball can float, but as it floats it has no harmful chemicals that hurt the environment. The Omb-Bomb has a sensor that can detect any type of pollution. Like harmful gases, trash not recycled even in the ocean.

The Omb-Bomb has 4 round metal balls circling around the Omb-Bomb. There are 2 red balls, 1 black ball and 1 blue ball. The balls suck in the pollution. The blue ball sucks in only trash that is not recycled. It shrinks the trash and turns it into something useful. The black ball sucks in any polluted liquid, even acid rain. Then it replaces it with clean water. The 2 red balls suck in any polluted air, like carbon dioxide and lets out clean air, faster than plants.

As you can see, the Omb-Bomb is very, very useful.

ISHAN MATTI  
*Morrison Elementary ~ Ms. Schwarzel ~ Athens County*

**The Saltwater-Powered Car**

One day, I was in the car, and then I saw a gas sign that said “Unleaded 299”. I asked my mom why it was so high. She said that she didn’t know. Then I had an idea. Why not invent a saltwater-powered car?

My saltwater-powered car has many internal parts. First, it has a 20-gallon tank. After that, it has an evaporation chamber; water goes in it, evaporates, and it becomes steam, and goes to the cooling chamber, where it condensates. The cooling chamber has two output chambers. One is to the freshwater storage chamber. The other is to an electrical chamber. The water in the electrical chamber gets charged with electricity, and separates into hydrogen and oxygen. The hydrogen goes to the hydrogen-powered engine. The saltwater-powered car will have the same parts a hybrid has.

My saltwater-powered car solves many problems. It doesn’t need gas, so it saves money. It also creates freshwater from saltwater, which means more freshwater for your family. We have plenty of saltwater on Earth, but only a little freshwater, which is why I chose saltwater over freshwater. Gas is made from petroleum, a non-renewable resource.

MACY LAUTENSCHLEGER  
*Central Elementary ~ Ms. Alsept ~ Tuscarawas County*

**Correct Plus Washer and Dryer**

Are you tired of having to move your clothes from washer to dryer? Not now with Correct Plus washer and dryer. Its automatic technology will have your infinite loads of laundry done in no time.

So many people hate having to spend lots of time on laundry. “I have better things to do,” Dugan May of New Philadelphia says. Correct Plus washer and dryer company understands, so we know how to fix the problem.

Correct Plus washer and dryer does so much. It washes your clothes and then lightly shifts the clothes through a cylinder tube/pipe connected to the dryer. It’s retailed at a low price and is a very manageable system. Just simply press the “ON” button and it will operate. When it is done, it will make a low volume “beep” so that you know it’s done cleaning your clothes. And guess what? It has a simple opening that will very easily dump your clothes into your hamper.

This will help so many people. Whether it’s a simple shirt or a whole load of laundry, Correct Plus washer and dryer will get the job done well.

HANNAH WEBB  
*Central Elementary ~ Ms. Frasure ~ Vinton County*

If I could invent something, it would be a food recycler. You might be wondering what this is! Well, this is a machine that recycles wasted food and makes good and healthy food. This machine will decrease the hunger issue in the United States and all around the world.

How it works is that you have old food that you think has expired. Instead of throwing it away, you can put it in the food recycler and it cleans it and you can select what new food you want and it will come out the slot. You get a good dinner, lunch, snack, dessert or breakfast.

It will also save a lot of money. It might make taxes go down and more. They can come in all shapes, sizes and styles. The small one is great for cooking eggs, toast, waffles, pancakes and even sushi. The medium one would be great for cooking chicken (of any kind), hamburgers, meat, turkey, fish, noodles and more. The big one cooks everything! The colors it comes in are red, yellow, stainless steel, blue, gray, pink and black.

Also this is useful in the soup kitchen, banquets and restaurants. You could even put them on the sidewalk because if you have a hot dog that fell on the ground, you can put it in the machine and it will turn into a fresh, clean one.
Lyndsey Johnson  
East Elementary ~ Ms. Finley ~ Morgan County

I would invent a steam powered car to help solve the problem of air and water pollution. The steam for the car would be made from polluted water that is heated in a furnace inside the engine. The water would be heated to a high temperature which would get rid of any harmful chemicals, waste, or bacteria.

The clean water would then go into a boiling tank which would turn it into steam. When the tank is filled to the brim the car could run for two months without needing to be refilled. This can easily be done by simply unscrewing the cap and adding more polluted water to the holding tank.

This invention would also save the farmer money on fuel because he would only go to the field once. It would help the environment because he would be using less fuel. It would also take up less space in the storage shed.

If I could invent the All In One Hay Machine it would make farmers and the environment happy.

Palmer Erb  
Ridgewood Middle School ~ Ms. Claxon ~ Coshocton County

My invention to Help Ohio

My invention is a transporter. The reason I invented this is because Ohio does not have a bunch of jobs. So you could hop in the transporter in your city, and go to where your job is anywhere in Ohio. You could live in Coshocton where there are not many jobs, and use the transporter to go to Columbus where there are more jobs.

The transporter is a box that is the size of a refrigerator. It is made out of steel, but is as thin as paper so that everyone will be able to afford it. When you want to use it, you just press a button to start the process and set the city that you want to travel to. Then you step inside and spin around five times and it will send your molecules to a transporter in the city you want to travel to. Your molecules travel through the air to the other city.

This invention will also help limit how much people have to use their cars. This will lower the amount of pollution in the air. So the transporter will be eco-friendly.

Sarah Jarvis  
Knox Elementary ~ Ms. Samblanet ~ Mahoning County

If I were an inventor, I would invent an electronic desk. It would have a special program so that you could do all of your work on the computer that is installed in your desk. The teacher would be able to send assignments to you from her computer. You would be able to save all of your work and send your papers back into the teacher’s computer with the click of a button. This desk allows you to play games with up to fifteen other friends at recess. This desk would not use paper, so if all of the schools in the world used it, we would not have to cut down near as many trees! This desk would come with two small electric hand-held paper senders. These would be given to parents, so that parents could not complain they are not getting all of the papers that are being sent home. Parents could track their children’s grades on the hand-held paper senders, as well as online conferences with their child’s teacher. Both things would have touch screens and be solar charged. They would be solar charged so that it would not waste any electricity when you charged them.

Caden Arbaugh  
Harrison North Elementary ~ Ms. Cook ~ Harrison County

If I could invent something it would be an All In One Hay Machine. My invention would include a mower, rake, baler, and bale hauler. Most of the time the farmer needs to take the tractor with a mower attached to the field to mow, then take off the mower and hook up the rake to rake the field. Next the farmer has to take off the rake and hook up the baler to bale the field and then take off the baler and hook up a bale mover and wagon to haul the hay bales.

My invention would let you mow, rake, bale, load and haul the hay at the same time. My invention would save the farmer time by not having to change one implement for another.
**Kristina Cass**  
*Glen Este Middle School ~ Ms. Clark ~ Clermont County*

**Contact Lens Camera**

If I could invent something, I might invent a type of non-prescription contact lens camera. There would be one for each eye, and one of them would have a tiny camera and a flash in it. The other one would have storage space to store the pictures. You would just turn on the lens, and blink 5 times in a row to take a clear, high-definition picture.

This invention could solve the problem of people who can’t hold a camera, like people who are paralyzed, and for the moments when you don’t have a camera and you really want to take a picture. Also it wouldn’t hurt or itch your eyes, and you can still see clearly without anything being in the way of your eye. You would also be able to wear it constantly, even to bed or underwater.

To share the pictures with other people, you would take out the storage lens, stick it in a special cup that’s plugged into the computer, and download the pictures. Also, for people who already wear contacts, they can get prescription contacts.

If I invented this, I think it would be a great invention.

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**Andrew Turner**  
*East Portsmouth Elementary ~ Ms. Campbell ~ Scioto County*

**My Invention Would Be a Car**

If I could invent something it would be a car. My car would be unique; it would not waste fuel or cause pollution. My car would be affordable to most drivers.

When I said a car, I meant an environmentally friendly car. This is how it works: you put water in where the gas usually goes. My car would have two solar panels on top of it and two batteries, a turbine and it would run on steam. The energy from sunlight would be collected by the solar panels and heat the water to boiling and the steam would turn the turbine and provide power to the wheels. The batteries store the energy not used in daytime to run the car at night.

The car would have to be made of lightweight but strong materials because the water and the batteries will be very heavy. This car is environmentally friendly because it runs on water and is affordable because the fuel is cheap; water covers 75% of earth.

This invention would cut down on pollution like carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and the consumption of oil. Steam powered cars with the water being heated by the sun is safer, can be cheaper and makes us more independent.

This invention would help me and everyone else breathe easier. It would give us a chance to use water and sunlight instead of oil and gas. This invention, a steam powered car, would give everyone a chance to save some money.
Emilia Heigley

Morgan West Elementary  ~  Ms. Kay  ~  Morgan County

The Helpful Machine

Lots of people today do not have a place to live. Some people live on the streets, in cars, in the woods, or in many other places where no one should be living. If I were to help the world I would want to build a machine. This machine will be very helpful to people who need somewhere to live. This machine will build a house in a day. The best part is that you do not have to locate it to change the batteries, it does not run on electricity, or gasoline, but on solar energy. It has three solar panels that run on solar energy from the sun.

Within a year it will build 362 homes. These homes will have solar panels, so they could have electricity and heat. The machine would dig a well outside, so they could have clean water. This way the house could be located in different regions. Families that are homeless are on the top of the waiting list to get their new house, because children are the future. In order to keep these homes they would need to get a job, take care of their new house, and help others. Someone will come and make sure that they are following these rules.

If I were to invent something to help people this is what it would be because then more people would have a place to live.

Aundrea M. Yates

Gallia Academy Middle School  ~  Mr. Mayes  ~  Gallia County

My Problem Solving Invention

If I were to invent something, it would be a Protective Ozone Layer for the planet Earth. This protective layer would cover our existing layer as a reinforcement barrier. This new protective layer would produce ozone and repair the existing layer at the same time.

Ozone is a slightly blue form of oxygen that is found in small amounts in the air we breathe. Inside My Protective Ozone Layer, there would also be a built in photosynthetic property. These properties would work as plants to cleanse the pollution out of the existing air that we breathe. While cleansing the air, the plant-like properties would also make the oxygen needed to make ozone.

My Protective Ozone Layer would shield the planet against the sun’s harmful ultraviolet rays. The rays would be deflected back into space by the new layer of ozone. Without these harmful rays slipping through the ozone, maybe the number of people that get cancer from the sun’s rays would even drop. In many ways, my Protective Ozone Layer would make the world a better, safer place for all to live.

Morgan County

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Kole Zellers
St. Paul School  ~  Ms. Barto  ~  Columbiana County

SOLVING THE WORLD’S HUNGER PROBLEM

Did you get enough to eat yesterday? Unfortunately, almost half of the world’s population did not. That’s why I came up with the idea of a food replicator that uses cloning technology to instantly create vegetables, fruits, and grains to feed the hungry in the world.

This food replicator would be a portable device so you could take it to any neighborhood, city, or country in the world that was in need. Also, permanent replicators could be kept in places where farmland is not fertile. The replicators could be made in different sizes depending on the size of the population that needed to be fed. The portable food replicator could also be brought in to provide relief after a natural disaster such as an earthquake or a flood.

This device could be used to end the world’s hunger problems.

Mark Mayle
Malvern Middle School  ~  Ms. Van Horn  ~  Carroll County

I will invent a flying car. The cars will glow in the dark. It goes 50 miles per hour on ground and 200 miles per hour in air. It runs on oxygen.

It cuts down on gas completely. It has built in night vision goggles to see in the dark. You will never have to buy a plane ticket ever again because you can fly all over the world. It has sirens to warn the other people flying. It has auto pilot with a couch in the back to sleep on. It has parachutes if you wreck. Flying is easy on it; a kid could fly it. It has a flat screen TV in the back for entertainment. It has the best alarm system. Five people can fit in the car.

I would like to invent a flying car because it would be awesome to have one. It is really cheap to buy. It will help humans and animals from air pollution and not having to build any more roads. It will cost no money on gas anymore.

Nehemiah Baldwin
Vinton County Middle School  ~  Ms. Macke  ~  Vinton County

Silent Pencil Sharpener

A really big problem in classrooms is loud pencil sharpeners. During tests they are annoying and distracting. You could use a manual one but it takes time and the pencil is more likely to break. So my idea for an invention is a silent pencil sharpener.

It has special blades that when sharpening a pencil it makes little or no noise. An added bonus is that a vaporizing field turns pencil shards into dust-sized particles so it won’t have to be constantly emptied. It also is powered by solar charged batteries that are recyclable.

This invention solves several problems. First, it makes sharpening pencils less annoying. Second, you almost never have to empty it. Finally, it runs on solar charged batteries, which saves energy and the environment.
Joseph Agha-Khan
Winesburg Elementary ~ Ms. Bauer ~ Holmes County

My Invention

If I could invent anything, I would invent something to put an end to air pollution and save money on gas.

My invention would be a type of railroad track that would replace the need for roads and would be put on every road and highway. You would easily attach your car to the track and simply type in your destination. This track, of course, would be run by electricity and would not require steering which would give more time for the passenger to read, sleep or enjoy some other form of entertainment. This will obviously decrease by far the average amount of money an American spends on gas.

Also, my ‘tracks’ would control the speed of the car and would control when it is to go or stop. Furthermore, this would put an end to car crashes caused by running red lights. The tracks would be made of an unbreakable metal that would not rust or corrode. Cars would no longer need to be bulky for they would only need a small motor for the short time they are off tracks. I think this would be a great invention and would be very useful for the American society.

Carra Popadak
Newcomerstown Middle School ~ Ms. Cline ~ Tuscarawas County

If I could invent anything I would invent something to help with the development of children. I want children to be able to have good educations.

My invention would be called the Book-O-Matic. It would write books on any topic you would like. When you pick your topic, you would type it in on the keyboard on the bottom of the Book-O-Matic. The books it writes will be easy to comprehend so anyone can learn from them. The way the Book-O-Matic works is inside it there is a robotic worm called the Book Worm. The Book Worm transports itself to a place where it can research the topic you picked. If you want pictures it will take pictures.

When the Book Worm is finally done researching and taking pictures it will crawl back inside the Book-O-Matic and type the book on the keyboard on the bottom. When the book is done it will be published so you can get it on laptops and also as a regular book.

The books will help kids across the world to get a better education in a fun way. The Book-O-Matic would open new doors for education in the future.

Charlie Marin
Neal Middle School ~ Ms. Sheridan ~ Trumbull County

What I would invent was a way to bring people back to life. The reason I want to invent this is, because people lose family members or friends and they miss them so much they wish there was a way to bring them back. Well with my invention they could bring them back!

Kaitlynn Clark-Patterson
Union Local Middle School ~ Ms. Sonk ~ Belmont County

The Bully Alarm

My invention is the bully alarm. It has a red, electronic button that fits hidden inside anything. This button has a safety switch, so it is not used carelessly. To activate, a person will simply switch over the safety and push the button. If a bully tries to hurt you, the bully alarm will go off producing a loud, shrill sound. This noise scares bullies and helps victims to get to safety. During this time of panic, my bully alarm will be using a satellite to contact a local police department. This tracking device will help police by giving an exact location on the victim. Bullying is no joke and should be acted upon quickly if seen or heard!

The reason I invented the bully alarm is because I’m sick and tired of people getting hurt. Bullying is just so mean! Hundreds of people die each year because of some sort of bullying and those who bully shall be punished. My bully alarm will care for you and keep you safe.

The bully alarm is the most reliable thing to keep you safe from bullying. I believe this invention will help thousands in need in everyday events. A little red button could have so much power in our world and hopefully lessen the bullying rates. My invention will not only save lives, but help those in need. A better place is a better reason to do something now about bullying.

Brittany Jenkins
Buckeye North ~ Ms. Celestin ~ Jefferson County

If I could invent something it would be a cube that helps by improving spelling and vocabulary. It will help kids read and write. The cube’s sides will have things on it like the spelling side will have a speaker. The side that the vocabulary is on will have little buttons on it like a keyboard. The side that can help kids read will have a speaker like the spelling side but it will have a screen that you can touch and follow along. The side that can help you write will have a screen with a pen that you can write on with that pen. It will also show you the word first and then on the bottom you write the word.

Over time the kid will get better and the cube can show how much you improved. The cube will be small but not too small. I just want kids to be able to learn a lot more. My mom had to pay one hundred dollars a month for me to get better at reading and spelling. That is why I want to invent the cube. A lot of people are having trouble in their school work.
**Christopher Jarrett Schneider**  
*Adena Middle School  ~  Ms. Groff  ~  Ross County*

**Sharpwit**

Children diagnosed with ADHD have problems focusing. They fidget, squirm, and rarely stay on task. I’ve seen kids get in trouble because they are just doing what their mind says. If they have a hard time with it as kids, what happens when they become adults and lose their job because they couldn’t focus? Kids have a really hard time with grades because of their condition. What about grown-ups that have jobs in jeopardy? What if they can’t stand the tiny box office they’re assigned?

The “Sharpwit” will help all who have ADHD and will put their life back on track. It keeps you totally focused. The “Sharpwit” uses fake brain-shock waves to tell the brain to stop sending extra messages to the body. It sends calming, low pulses to soothe the wearer. They are still themselves but quieter and less troublesome. The best thing is that the “Sharpwit” works on anyone! Simply stick the two transparent lenses on each temple and you’re done.

My little brother is always running amuck. He needs to chill sometimes but he can’t even though he doesn’t have ADHD. He can be hyperactive but with “Sharpwit” he’ll finally have a chance to relax.

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**Matthew Pitcock**  
*Maysville Middle School  ~  Ms. McGee  ~  Muskingum County*

Imagine a dirty world where people can’t go outside without a mask because of black, sooty clouds that could poison them. If I could invent anything it would be a fiberglass filter to destroy air pollution. I would bioengineer a microscopic, decomposing organism that could eat and destroy air pollution. Then, I would place thousands of these organisms into a filter. When the filter senses pollution, it would trap the pollution, and the organisms would consume it. The filter would be placed in factories and on transportation or anything else that creates air pollution.

After a while the organisms would die and need to be replaced. Therefore, on each filter, I’d install a box in which the organisms could breed. When no organisms remain on the filter, a sensor would open a door on the box to let new organisms in the filter. The filters would come in different shapes and sizes depending on their location. Also, the filter would only absorb 70% of the pollution produced by the object. According to meteorologists, if there wasn’t any air pollution, more sunlight would enter Earth, making the planet even hotter. If the world is to be improved, this filter would be one item to do it.

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**Erica Whittenberger**  
*Canfield Middle School  ~  Ms. Thacker  ~  Mahoning County*

**My Invention**

If I could invent anything I would invent a cure for cancer. This could help all of those people who are suffering and died. This is not just a country problem it is a worldwide problem. I have so many wishes in this world and one big one is a cure for cancer.

I know a lot of people who care about this but a lot of people don’t feel how I feel. I even started a lemonade stand and donated money to The American Cancer Association and hope that a cure is made soon!

When I grow up I want to become a cancer doctor to make my dream real. When I see all those people suffering that dream gets bigger and bigger. Soon everyone will be cured and will be happy with their families. I will always keep trying and hope for this one invention to become true. When you see me ask me what I’m doing to help. Thank you!

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**Patrick Stephens**  
*Woodsfield Elementary  ~  Ms. Mobley  ~  Monroe County*

I would like to invent a small engine that runs on water instead of gas. The engine would be for ATVs and lawn mowers. As a country we would be less dependent on foreign countries, air quality would increase, and people would save money.

The price of water would increase but our dependency on foreign oil would decrease. We would not have to pay to have water shipped overseas to us like we do oil. Water is a natural resource that renews itself. As a country we would be more self-sufficient and more able to live off of the land.

Our air quality would increase. The engine would only give off steam instead of carbon dioxide which is a poison that damages the ozone. We would have cleaner air to breathe which would make us healthier. If we are healthier we would be able to save money by not having to spend as much on health care.

I believe that our country and world would be a much better place if we depended less on gas and more on natural renewable resources, so that is why I would like to invent an engine that runs on water.

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**Abbigail Overly**  
*Eastern Middle School  ~  Ms. Brown  ~  Pike County*

**The Pencil Saver**

If I could invent something it would be called a “Pencil Saver”. It would produce entire wooden pencils and lead for mechanical pencils. My invention would solve many problems. For example, when students are in school and taking tests their pencils often break. What if they don’t have an extra one? If their mechanical pencil runs out of lead they can just walk up to the “Pencil Saver” and choose one of the selections. There you go a brand new pencil or a brand new piece of lead. Adults can also use the “Pencil Saver” to supply lead during meetings.

The “Pencil Saver” would be very easy to operate. Some people would think that this invention would make a lot of noise, but it is very quiet and portable. It is very lightweight and has several additional options. Some of the options are case color, lead color and type of erasers. You can also imprint your name on the pencil. The dispenser is mechanical and requires no electricity to operate. I highly recommend the problem solving invention the “Pencil Saver”.

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Whitney Blazer
Greenfield Middle School ~ Mr. McGinnis ~ Highland County

If I could invent something, it would be a new way to test children for Strep throat. Children get nervous when they see a doctor holding a long, wooden stick. The gagging that comes with the doctor's swab is also uncomfortable.

My invention would be a thin, candy-flavored strip attached to a small sucker. With this invention, children would only have to hold it in their mouth, instead of having it shoved down their throat. After a period of time, the sucker could be examined and sent to the lab. The test would absorb the needed samples to prove if a child has Strep throat. It would be made of a harmless chemical able to absorb germs from a child's tongue. To improve the taste, a sugar-free candy would be added to the sucker. It would dissolve, if used too long.

This new method would help doctors, patients, and parents. Doctors would not have to hold children down for their tests, saving time. Patients would not have to experience the gagging feeling, or be afraid of the doctor's test. Parents would not have to watch their children scream. This would change the doctor's office for the better.

Brianna Russell
South Point Middle School ~ Ms. Myers ~ Lawrence County

Mood Sensing Phone Cover

If I could invent anything to solve a problem, it would be a mood sensing cover for your phone. It would be like a mood ring, but instead it's a cover.

If you got angry at someone that you were texting, your phone cover could sense it and your phone would lock up so you could not text or make any phone calls. This would stop a lot of drama that begins with texting. Texting causes a lot of problems, especially when you are mad.

This could also sense, for adults, if you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs. It could prevent you from sending bad texts to people or calling people and saying some not so pleasant words.

The final feature of the mood sensing phone cover would be an emergency dial function. This feature would allow a call to 911 if needed. This function could be used in emergency situations regardless of the mood that the person is in.

The need for this type of cell phone cover seems obvious to me. By having this cover available, many arguments can be avoided and many friendships can be saved.
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MARY KATE TIMMS
Vinton County Middle School ～ Ms. Belcher ～ Vinton County

Solving World Hunger

If I could invent something, I would invent a machine that, once you put water into it, it would heat up and put a grain or vegetable in the hot water, with a little flavoring, and it would turn into soup. It would be free so that anyone who needed it would be able to own it. The problem it would solve would be world hunger.

So many people starve every day. Whether they are in the United States, Canada, Africa, or even Togo, they can't afford a single grain of rice. In fact, close to three million people struggle to make two dollars a day. How can a family survive on two dollars a day you may ask? Well, they can't. About every four seconds someone dies of starvation. This machine would feed a family about three times a day for a year. When it runs out, they could get another one. It's very simple and easy. With no more hunger, the statement "one in eight children go to bed hungry every night," would be false.

From the money families save, they could get blankets, clothes, and even toys. Families would be happier. With this invention, more hard-working, smart, friendly, giving, and caring people would be getting degrees and enjoying life here on Earth.

MATTHEW STEMMER
Meadowbrook Middle School ～ Mr. Valentine ～ Guernsey County

My Invention is Healing

If I could invent something I would invent healing shoes and clothes. I would invent these items so that if you started having pains or have had pains for a while these items would start healing in that area. The problem these items would cure would be scoliosis, foot pain, shoulder pain, and knee pain.

In order to get the healing shoes or clothes you need to get a doctor’s appointment and the doctor will prescribe them to you along with the pain killer if he/she thinks you need them. The healing items find out there is pain by scanning your body for hurting area(s). Then it makes a diagnosis of the scan of your body to figure out why the area hurts and how it can cure or give you something like a pain killer to reduce the pain while it works on healing that area(s). The clothes and shoes heal the area by increasing or decreasing the softness or firmness of itself at that area. Different parts of clothing can also be equipped with special pieces or materials to add extra support to the area(s). The clothing can either be prescribed at a doctor’s office or bought at a special clothing store. The shoes can either be prescribed at a doctor's office or bought at a special shoe store.

The special clothing can be made for badly burned victims of fires. The material that is in the burn clothes is made of cotton with a special medicine coating. The coating will be made out of natural herbs and aloe vera. The amount of time the special clothing would be worn would depend on the severity of the burn. The length of time you would wear the clothes would depend on the degree of the burn. When the healing time is finished, the patient’s body would not have any lasting scars.
Christian Hill
Whiteoak Junior High School ~ Ms. Ellis-Wessner ~ Highland County

Domination Multiplier 9000

If I could invent something it would be a machine that makes copies of something. It’s called the Domination Multiplier 9000. The machine is for trustworthy people and me. Its purpose is to make peace and happiness all over the world.

The Domination Multiplier 9000 solves money problems, personal problems, global problems, local problems, and time problems. It could duplicate money so that our people would never be broke again. It solves local problems by being helpful to the people around me. It solves personal problems by having the copies do chores for me, going to school for me, and stuff like that. It solves global problems by copying food to end world hunger. It solves time problems by having 2 or more copies of a person to work and get the job done faster.

The Domination Multiplier 9000 looks similar to that of a laptop except it has 3 screens, 3 key boards and four 3 inch legs. It has a pipe with the word “duplicate” that multiplies the object. It has another pipe that says “get rid of”; this gets rid of the object. The Domination Multiplier 9000 has a robotic head band. This is what allows you to duplicate the object. The way it works is having to focus on your object with your mind.

The bigger the object, the more you have to focus. The smaller the object, the less you have to focus. Also you can store any multiplied object in a round sphere-like nanochip. All you have to do is press the button on the nanochip and point it at the object and then it is stored in the nanochip. To take the object back out of the nanochip you have to put it in a pocket in between the 2 pipes, twist it in and repress the button on the nanochip, then the object is out of the nanochip and back in our world and you don’t even have to focus any.

On the Domination Multiplier 9000 you can copy a lot of small objects, a good bit of medium sized objects and a few big objects. If the object is small you can multiply it up to 50 times. If the object is medium sized you can multiply it up to 25 times. If the object is large you can multiply it up to 10 times. If the object is jumbo sized you can multiply it up to 5 times. If the object is microscopic you can multiply it up to 10,000 times.

The Domination Multiplier 9000 can multiply even the Empire State Building. I think that the Domination Multiplier 9000 is a good invention. Anyways that is my invention description, the way it looks, what problems it solves, the name and all that good stuff.

Seth Anderson
Union Local Middle School ~ Ms. Diaz ~ Belmont County

If I could Invent Anything, It would be a Dog Translator

If I could invent anything, it would be a dog translator. The translator would make any dog you put it on, speak human. That way when your dog is barking at something or playing with you, you would know what it wants and other things it is trying to say. You can find out why they like getting their belly scratched or why they chase cars. You can also find out why they like to chase cats and like to catch Frisbees. I would like to know how they automatically want to play tug of war when you get out a rope. I would also like to know why dogs like to stick their heads out windows with their mouths open.

This translator could solve many problems. We would not have to guess what they are thinking of or barking about. Many times dogs bark because they are trying to warn us of something. If we had a translator they could tell us what to look out for or what is coming. Another problem it could solve is that you could find out what their favorite brand of food is. We could also find out what is wrong when they are sick or they could tell us when they have to go to the bathroom. Potty training would be so much easier.

The dog translator would look like a dog collar with a small speaker that is a little bigger than a cherry tomato. It would take a watch battery and would also have a volume button that you could use when your dog is too loud or keeps talking non-stop.

The first language I would make the translator in is English. Once it was perfected then I would like to make it in other languages so that everyone could talk to their dogs.

I think the dog translator is a good idea and a good investment for people who always wonder what their dogs are barking at.

Nicole Hepner
Riverview Junior High School ~ Ms. Bell ~ Coshocton County

There are a lot of problems in Ohio but one of the major ones is first and second hand smoking. People are dying left and right from this horrifying habit. First and second hand smoke is a very dangerous thing to be messing with. The sad part is that it isn’t only adults being affected but teens and younger children as well. Second hand smoking is more preventable than first hand smoke because it isn’t being done on purpose.

If I could invent anything to prevent or decrease this problem I would invent cigarettes with no nicotine or tobacco in them. This might not take effect right away because smokers may think that it would not have the same effect as a regular cigarette would. The way that problem would be solved is to keep the packs the same. I believe this would help because if somebody that had never had the new cigarette and would like to buy their normal kind saw a new pack, they would think that it wouldn’t be the same, and therefore the new product may not sell.

The way this product could possibly have an effect on a person’s health is by stopping all of the tar and other unhealthy things that are put in cigarettes. I believe this would also slow down the percentage of people that die of cancer. I would much rather a person pass away from old age than I would from cancer caused by a single life changing choice.
**Jarrod Polen**  
*Salem Junior High School  ~  Ms. Carlisle  ~  Columbiana County*

**Solar Powered Driveway Heater**

My favorite time of the year is winter. Most of the time, I love the snow and ice. That love quickly fades away when I have to go outside and shovel the driveway. Not only does it take time away from friends and family, but when I come inside I am usually cold. I would like to invent a Solar Powered Driveway Heater. The Solar Powered Driveway Heater will generate heat to melt the snow and ice from my driveway and eliminate my snow shoveling job.

My concept for a Solar Powered Driveway Heater is a system that is made up of three basic components. The first component is a solar collector. The solar collector is a device that is mounted on a stand in your yard or on your roof. The panel of the solar collector that absorbs solar energy moves throughout the day to follow the sun. This movement is a key feature that allows the solar collector to absorb the maximum amount of energy. Within the solar collector is a tank of fluid. The fluid in this tank is heated by the sun's energy and stores this energy for later use. Since the system must work in a very cold environment, the fluid will contain anti-freeze to prevent freezing. This type of solar collector has been used to produce hot water for homes at around 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

The second component of the system is a radiator under the driveway. The radiator is made from loops of plastic tubing to run under the entire length and width of the driveway. The fluid from the solar collector will run through these plastic tubes. The heat stored within the fluid will be transferred to the driveway. As the driveway warms due to this heat, the snow and ice will melt.

The final component that is needed to complete the Solar Powered Driveway Heater is a pump. The pump for this system will be powered by electricity generated by a solar panel. The pump circulates the heated fluid that is stored in the solar collector through the plastic tubes that run under the driveway.

**Brandi Brock**  
*Glen Este Middle School  ~  Ms. Clark  ~  Clermont County*

**The Motorized “Get Ready for School” Machine**

Do you know what I hate about mornings? I hate getting up early to get ready for school when I could be sleeping and dreaming. So I have decided that if I could invent anything, I would invent the Motorized “Get Ready for School” Machine! This machine will solve the problem of taking forever to get ready for school, and will increase the amount of time you can sleep. What kid wouldn’t want to sleep longer?

The “Get Ready for School” Machine contains all of your clothes and shoes, and if you’re a girl, your makeup and accessories. All you have to do in the morning is get up and sit in the very comfortable spinning chair. Then once you are relaxed, you press the big green button that says “The Perfect Outfit”. The machine will then dispense the perfect outfit and accessories for that specific day. The machine even knows what the temperature is every single day, so the clothes are appropriately chosen. Every outfit comes out perfectly clean and folded. Once you have your stylish clothes on, you press the big blue button that says “Hair and Makeup”. This button would be optional because boys would not need makeup. If you are a girl and you press that button, there will be automatic hands that come out and will spin you around and wash, dry, and style your hair. Then the arms will do your makeup and make you look extremely beautiful. Within 10 minutes, you will be ready to go to school looking very fashionable. If you need to get a specific outfit, you can type what you want into the keyboard and the perfect outfit will be dispensed. At the end of the day when you are going to bed, you press the big orange button that says “Night”. The machine will then dispense the perfect night time outfit. When you are done with your clothes, put them in the clothes hamper and the clothes will then get washed automatically. You never have to do laundry!

This machine will be very helpful for kids and parents. They will not have to do laundry or get up early to make sure their child gets ready for school and doesn’t sleep in. If the Motorized “Get Ready for School” Machine actually gets made, it would be very helpful to everybody.

**Nathan Kudlapur**  
*Logan Hocking Middle School  ~  Ms. Hayden  ~  Hocking County*

**Recycling Rainwater**

If I could invent something, I would invent a screened gutter to recycle rainwater and help the world’s supply of water last longer. There are many people in Africa, Asia, and even Appalachian Ohio who don’t have an adequate amount of fresh water to drink. Every year, 1.6 million children die from waterborne diseases such as diarrhea and cholera. But with a screened gutter, most of these people can have access to clean water.

The gutter would be screened on top so when it rains, it will capture it, send the water through a filter, treat it, and then flow into a tank where it can be used efficiently. The gutter will be made out of recycled material and eco-friendly. The size of the gutter will vary and will also be available like a long, flat roof, slightly slanted and supported by wooden posts so the gutter will be available to everyone who has an adequate amount of rainfall whether they live in a big house, small house, mobile home, or don’t have a home at all. The gutter system will be shipped in pieces and put together once it arrives.

After it rains and the water is captured, it runs down a pipe and through a filter and treated with chlorine. The treated water then runs into a tank where it can be used efficiently for drinking, bathing, etc. There are some places where it doesn’t rain much but when it does, it rains hard and steadily. In this case, all of the water is filtered, treated, and stored.

Being made out of recycled material, it will also benefit the environment. With the water being treated and cleaned it will help prevent waterborne diseases. It will provide clean water to almost everywhere where fresh water is scarce. Not only will the gutter provide water, but it will help the environment. If a product like this ever becomes available, it will be good to know that it will provide fresh water to people in poverty by recycling rainwater and help the world’s supply of water last longer while also making the world a better place to live.
Richard Hwang  
*Athens Middle School ~ Ms. Woodring ~ Holmes County*

Lost and Found: When A Car Sinks in the Sea of Cars

“Honey, where’s the car?” This is commonly heard in Walmart parking lots as bewildered couples stand amidst gleaming seas of cars.

The lettered signs above each row are supposed to serve as guideposts for stranded shoppers, but they never do. If you cannot remember where your car is, then how can you hope to remember the letter of the aisle where your car is located?

However, letter posts are not completely useless. With the added improvement of a digital tracker, shoppers will no longer need to hunt for their own cars as they tow their groceries with them.

Each car would be attached with a device that issues a unique signal; each signal would correspond directly to a card’s barcode. These barcode cards could be easily added to key chains and brought with the drivers at all times.

At the same time, each store would be issued terminals connected to signal receivers. Each driver could bring his or her barcode card to be scanned at a terminal. The terminal would match the barcode number with the corresponding signal of the car that is to be located by the receivers. The terminal would then display the location of the corresponding car to the driver.

Whenever a lovely old lady or a befuddled teenager forgets his or her car’s location, all he or she has to do is walk up to a terminal, scan the barcode card, and VOILA! The location of the car has been magically revealed!

This system can be installed in any store’s parking lot. But, for the meantime, it can be tested at the Walmart in my hometown, Athens, where the people will be graced with all-knowing terminals.

So, forgetful ones, just plan to go buy a device, and hope that this system shall surface in the world soon!

Next time, honeys, don’t be surprised if your silly husband asks, “Honey…where’s the terminal that can find our car?”

Oliver Rudmann  
*Minford Middle School ~ Ms. Seaman ~ Scioto County*

Freezing Solution

It has happened to almost everyone. It is a pleasingly warm day. You have just bought some ice cream in a drive-through or you bought some to go. Suddenly you realize the ice cream is melting. You hurry to eat all of the ice cream, but you still end up with about an inch of chocolate-flavored soup. This can be annoying.

In the summer, people do not just buy ice cream for the flavor. They also buy it for how cold it is. That means we do not want melted ice cream. The chocolate-flavored soup from before is definitely not cold.

People have been trying to solve this problem for a long time. Some people may think that all of the steps possible have already been taken by other people. I, however, disagree with this idea. Many people think there are more possibilities available. I think we should keep trying to find the answer. After all, who wants to find out whether or not their sprinkles are buoyant when it is 90 degrees?

Enter me, and my amazing invention. It keeps your ice cream cold. This invention produces little waste, and it is reusable. Look upon the newest thing in ice cream container technology. Behold…the Ice Cream Bowl 3000!

It has two battery ports. You simply put the batteries in to power it and start it up. That is right; it starts as soon as you put in the batteries! Now you do not need to mess around with a switch! To turn it off, you just need to remove the batteries.

Now you may be thinking, “Yeah, that is all fine and dandy, but what does it actually power?” Well I have got an answer for you! It powers a system similar to that in your everyday refrigerator that lines the bowl. That system keeps your ice cream cold longer. Just like that, your problem is gone!

You may be wondering, “What if I do not want to cool something down?” Well, wonder no more! All you have to do is remove the batteries. If you do so, it will function as a normal bowl. It is multipurpose. Its main function, however, is to keep your ice cream from melting and turning into soup, which it does well.

Charlie Schlabach  
*Hiland Middle School ~ Ms. Woodring ~ Holmes County*

Are you tired of waking up in the morning with bed head? Especially when no matter how hard you try to fix it, you just can’t? Then try Sleeping beauty! It combs your hair when you’re sleeping! Just attach it to your pillow, turn it on, and have sweet dreams because in the morning, you’ll look stunning!

Here’s how it works. When you clip it to your pillow, a pole sticks strait up with a joint in the middle and a comb or a brush on the end. After you fall asleep, the camera that is on top of the comb tells the comb where to go.

Sleeping Beauty comes in men’s (short hair) and women’s (long hair). It also comes in comb or brush. You can also get the optional extra arm for hair spray!

It would make a great Christmas present and whoever watches someone open it will be jealous!

Get Sleeping Beauty and sleep in a few extra minutes because you won’t have to do your hair.
Ashley Weeks
West Muskingum Middle School ~ Ms. Calcasola ~ Muskingum County

Are you tired of your hands being sore and all cramped up after writing for a long period of time? What if you were working on a very important exam and your hand started hurting, so you decided to write as little as possible so your hand didn’t hurt and missed the question? If you’re suffering from this terrible problem no need to worry, my invention will solve it!

My invention is called the Smart Pencil. The Smart Pencil is designed to write for you, but write your own words down. It can tell what you want to write down and does the work for you! I am tired of having sore hands and black smudges all over my hand and work. This really irritates me when I have written a good piece but it looks so messy!

This invention will help you by being able to sort out your thoughts when you have writer’s block. It also has many settings for people of all ages to be able to understand them. Some of the settings are: Cursive writing, New Times Roman, Bold, Italic, and so much more. The Smart Pencil can also write neatly and quickly, or lightly or darkly and slowly. This pencil can also play any type of music! From pop to jazz, you can listen to any of your rocking tunes!

The Smart Pencil comes in many different styles as well. They are: Bright Pink, Baby Blue, Glitter, and Lime Green! And with each pencil you buy you can add a scent to the pencil. These scents are called Smelly Smelling Good Scents and they are: Strawberry, Blueberry, Lavender and Pineapple. One other cool thing about the Smart Pencil is that it is powered by lead! So if you have lead in your pencil it will never die.

Say goodbye to squealing, squeaking, smearing erasers and cramping, cringing, cracking hands, hurting, so you decided to write as little as possible so your hand didn’t hurt and missed the question? If you’re suffering from this terrible problem no need to worry, my invention will solve it!

Katelyn Cox
Skyvue Elementary ~ Ms. Matz ~ Monroe County

What Should I Wear?

Every morning it is the same routine. I really get tired of getting ready for school. I think the worst part of my morning is finding something to wear that fits the mood I am in. So in order to help myself out, I came up with this invention that will make every girl happy. Well, at least I think so.

This invention idea came to me just as I was finding something to wear for school. I want to invent a machine that is called “What Should I Wear?”. All you have to do is take a picture of all your clothes in your closet and full body picture of yourself. Then it is stored in a database. Next you answer some simple questions. For example: What is the weather going to be, what type of mood are you in, type of occasion, is there a particular item of clothing you want to wear. This will help determine three options and it will show you the outfits, and what you will look like in it, on the screen.

Chase Jenkins
Dawson Bryant Middle School ~ Ms. Harrison ~ Lawrence County

My Invention

All around the world, in every state, in every city there are children without a mother or a father, aunt or uncle, due to driving drunk or a drunken driver. Every year many are injured in an accident related to someone being under the influence and quite a few die as a result of these crashes. That is why if I could invent anything I would invent a device that checks the drivers’ blood alcohol level to see if the driver is capable of driving safely. This invention is to save families from a lot of grief, and to save lives.

This gadget would lock the ignition allowing the driver to only start his or her vehicle by blowing into the machine to check and see if the operator of the vehicle is intoxicated. If the device senses alcohol on the driver’s breath the ignition will remain locked.

At this point the machine will contact your home to let your family know you are drunk, and unable to drive yourself home. This machine will contain a GPS tracking device inside of it. This will let your family know your exact location.

The gadget could be mounted on many different places. The main place it could be mounted is in front of the steering wheel, near the speedometer and other gauges. This would allow the machine to be directly in front of the driver for easy use.

This device would have to be very inexpensive. Also it would need to be very easy to operate. This gadget would need to be enforced not only by families but also by police officers like wearing a seat belt is enforced.

I believe this invention would make a positive difference in many people’s lives. It would save lives, and many from injuries. Also it would make a lot of people’s jobs easier, like a police officer and also medical crews. It would save a lot of families from a lot of grief and tragedy over lost loved ones who drive drunk, or are victims of drunk drivers. These reasons are some of many that make this invention a good one.
Mohommad Esmail
LEAD Academy ~ Ms. Carbone ~ Trumbull County

The Water Beeper
Have you ever walked away with the water still running? Well, I think we all have at some point. But that is not good for the environment. The Earth is seventy-five percent water, twenty-five percent land. Believe it or not, we can only use three percent of the water because the other seventy-two percent is salt water. So an invention that I would create would be something to help stop or bring attention to this issue.

I would invent something called the “Water Beeper.” The “Water Beeper” would beep very loudly if someone left the water running. This would be very useful because water is very scarce, as mentioned above. The “Water Beeper” would stop a misuse of water that does not have to be wasted.

Your “Water Beeper” would be placed on any faucet and/or any water spouts (shower heads, gardening hoses, etc). It would only be about the size of your palm and very light weight. They will come in many different colors and would be sold at all major stores. They will be inexpensive so that everyone will be able to purchase this wonderful invention. The “Water Beeper” will be so effective in saving the average family money, as well as helping conserve our world’s limited supply of water.

If I could invent anything it would be to help the world’s supply of water and energy, especially after finding out that the world only has three percent usable, clean water. Saving water is very important and the “Water Beeper” would help conserve the water. Whenever someone steps away from a running water source, it will beep uncontrollably and very loudly for the person to turn around and turn it off. Then we will be one step closer to saving the earth’s water supply.

Caroline Martin
Morgan Junior High School ~ Ms. Huck ~ Morgan County

The Third World Eliminator
With so many choices, I can only want to invent something that has an impact on the whole world, not just Appalachian Ohio. My invention would mean less people dying every day, and would make third world countries third world no more. No commercials about paying “twenty-dollars a month” to provide a child with clean water, would play on the television. My invention would change the world for the better.

My invention would simply be a bacteria-eating plant that would completely purify the water it’s put into. When there are no more bacteria to eat, the plant will die of starvation and dissolve into nutrients to enhance the water. Some people can’t even fathom the thought of actually having clean water to drink every day. The very idea is preposterous to them. My invention will put an end to wondering, “Will I find water today? Is that water safe for my family? Is that water safe for me?”

Many rivers today are polluted. My invention would not only make water safe to drink, it would make rivers unpolluted! You would add a mass quantity of my bacteria-eating plant to the river, and would once again have a clean river, where plant and animal life could thrive.

My invention would be called the Third World Eliminator. It would save millions of people, but would be ridiculously simple, just like Penicillin, the mold that saved millions.

I have many choices about what I could choose to invent, but something that helps the whole world seems like the right thing to me. A world with less people dying because of filthy water is a better world in my book. My answer to the question of “If you could invent something, what would it be and what would it solve?” is simple, but world changing.

Dustin Branscomb
Western High School ~ Ms. Day ~ Pike County

Litter Control
If I could invent something to help the Appalachian area, I would invent a robot that helped control our litter problem. I would stick one robot every mile down the road. When the robot would see somebody driving down the road throwing some trash out their window, it would shoot a hole in the person’s tire. Then go up to the car and beat up the litter bug. The robot would then make the person eat trash. After that, the robot would give the person a fine. The person would not be able to press charges because that would be the person’s punishment for littering.

I think this might help our litter problem because people do not like getting beat up, fined, and forced to eat trash. Right now, people can throw trash out their window and not get caught. But, with a robot every mile down the road, it would be harder for people to litter and not get caught. This invention is needed because people in the Appalachian area are too lazy to wait and throw their trash away at their home or wherever they are going. People just do not understand that ditches being full of trash are bad for the environment and it just plain looks bad. Our economy in the Appalachian area is not very good. If people came here looking to give us jobs and saw our litter, they might look somewhere else to set up jobs.

Litter also hurts wildlife. The pollution from litter gets into streams and water holes that animals drink out of. Animals can, also, get caught in trash and die from starvation or dehydration because they cannot get loose. As you can see litter can cause various harm to all things. Littering is a bad habit that needs to be broken.

Littering is done everywhere by almost everyone. If it is not stopped, our world, including Appalachian Ohio, will be so polluted by litter, it might not be fit to live in. If this invention is built, it should stop littering because people do not like to get beat up, fined, and forced to eat trash. So Appalachian Ohioans please quit littering because if you don’t, this robot might be built and if you get caught, you are in trouble. Please stop littering.
Autumn Gardner

Indian Valley Middle School ~ Ms. McKeivier ~ Tuscarawas County

The Zeaniff

If I were to invent something it would be a Zeaniff which would end all road problems. The Zeaniff would be a road system which would keep cars from running into each other. The cars wouldn't be attached to the road they would instead be in control inside of the car and mechanically steer you away from oncoming traffic. Since the car could have a default, the driver would be able to overpower the mechanical driver.

The Zeaniff would also have a radar system that would reach for one hundred miles for the ultimate safety of the driver. The radar system would look for traffic flaws along with weather disturbances and other fracases in order to keep the driver secure. Also the radar systems of cars within two miles of a wreck will send an immediate signal to the Highway Patrol.

Another thing the Zeaniff would do is lock its doors once any illegal substance entered the premises of the car. Also guns and illegal knives wouldn't be allowed in unless there was a code programmed into the Zeaniff when it was purchased.

The Zeaniff cars would be used by every driver and there would be a grid that you could track anybody in their car with.

The Zeaniff could potentially stop all road dilemmas, help law enforcement across the nation, prevent fatal crashes and keep you from being help up by unforeseen traffic tribulations.

Kolby Rayner

Caldwell Elementary ~ Ms. Klinger ~ Noble County

Do you want to own the lightest football cleats in the world? Then you should try out my new cleats, the Swift Zooms. Each cleat weighs 4 ounces, but the high tops will weigh 4.5 ounces. They come in all sizes from 5 ½ to 15. Also they come in the colors of: all red, red and black, black, blue, gold, purple, orange, green, green and black, white and red, white and black, white and gold, white and blue, and white and green.

The new Swift Zooms will be made out of track spikes but, they will have football tips on them. Our new design makes them more durable, and it feels like you aren't wearing anything on your feet so you can run faster. These cleats are made for running backs, quarter backs, and wide receivers. Although there are some models that are made for linemen, they weigh from 6 to 6.5 ounces. Also, you can customize your cleats with your team name, your last name, your number, your team emblem, and your position.

Football players around the world will use these new cleats. Most middle class families should be able to afford cleats for the small price of $55.46 for the most bang for your buck! With the customizable options these cleats will cost $58.00. Also the linemen cleats will cost $55.46 as well. I guarantee these are the lightest cleats in the world!

Kennedy Riegel

Jackson Middle School ~ Ms. Wilt ~ Jackson County

Do you know how much recyclable material is thrown in landfills every year? Each of us throws away more than 1,200 pounds of trash per year, way more than people in other countries. Eighty percent of what we throw away gets dumped into landfills, and only twenty percent gets recycled. The amount of wood and paper we throw away each year is enough to heat 50 million homes for 20 years! Americans throw away about 40 billion soft drink cans and bottles every year. Placed end to end, they would reach to the moon and back nearly 20 times. Eighty-four percent of a typical household’s waste — including food scraps, yard waste, paper, cardboard, cans and bottles — can be recycled!

If I could invent something that would help solve a problem, I would invent a machine that would sort through the contents of a trash truck’s load and retrieve all materials that are recyclable. The machine would be assembled line-like and would produce different blocks of the types of recycled material, such as plastics and paper. The materials could then be used to generate money to help with poverty, homelessness, hunger, etc.

This would help solve the problems that landfills can cause. Landfills are a threat to human health and to our environment, such as toxic gases being released like methane gas. Items such as baby diapers, soda cans, and glass bottles may take as long as 500 years to decompose. This invention would help improve our lives for generations to come.

Tianna Qualls

River Valley Middle School ~ Ms. Hatfield ~ Gallia County

The Pollution-Be-Gone Fan

What is one of our most concerning problems in the world? Homework? Jobs? Chores? No, our real problem is global warming! With all the pollution we put in our environment with cars, power plants, chemicals, and other wastes, our Ozone layer is getting smaller and smaller. Once the polar ice caps melt, it will be the end of life as we know it! Isn’t it time we tried to do something about it?

If I could invent something what would that thing be? My invention could change the way we live forever! It is like the fans you can buy that filters out dirty polluted air and puts out clean healthy air, only much bigger. It could be big enough to filter out clean air all over the world. It can be powered by alternative resources such as solar energy, and wind energy. Its name will be The Pollution-Be-Gone Fan (P.B.G. Fan). What can this thing do? What problems can it solve?

This invention will reduce pollution and help save our Mother Earth. It will help us with our problem with unhealthy air and other pollutions. It can clean water, air, and the surface of the ground. I also want to make it completely eco-friendly. We could live healthier and have healthier food, plants, animals, and diseases that are caused by pollutions and bacteria from chemicals could happen less often. Do you think this can change the world?
Jared Rothbauer
Canfield Village Middle School ~ Ms. Nagy ~ Mahoning County

Anti-Drug Tobacco

Every year in the world almost 440,000 people die from smoking. Some people only smoke once but become addicted due to the nicotine in it. These people waste their money and life smoking. That will all change with the invention of the Anti-Drug Tobacco. This product will have a safe environmental chemical that counters the nicotine and tobacco making smokers forget the addiction and even cleanse their lungs from the damage that ravages through their body. This invention would also have a thing called false tobacco. It would be just like regular tobacco but would not be harmful to the user’s body.

The anti-drug tobaccos will save many lives and make the world a better place.

The price of the product would be only a small amount more than regular tobacco of cigarettes and would be sold in pharmacies and local drugstores and gas stations throughout the world.

This will save many lives and make the world a better place.

Bryanna Grimm
Springfield Middle School ~ Ms. Mason ~ Jefferson County

If I could invent something, it would be a machine that would teach all the under-privileged children to read, write, and spell.

My machine would solve the problem of children that are in poverty not getting a good education. People in our class and school think it is ridiculous that we get to go to school no matter what size, shape, color, or religion we are, and children in other countries can’t go at all or only a few years.

In some countries children who are poor or in debt are only able to go for a few years and get a poor education and not able to get into a good college, and won’t be able to get a good job. The problem of poverty in schools is harmful to everyone that can’t attend school. With my machine this problem and many others will be solved and ended.

I will make my machine out of tin, several online dictionaries, and tons of textbooks that will give the machine power to teach.

If I made this machine I would fly around the world handing out my machine to under-privileged children for free. I believe that my machine will be able to help many people that are in poverty.

Thank you for taking the time to read my essay.
Real Life Mute Button

Have you ever just wanted to put the whole world on mute for a few minutes? That’s exactly what the Real Life Mute Button does. You can use the Real Life Mute Button anywhere and anytime. The Real Life Mute Button will help keep those pesky headaches at bay. Now of course, the muteness won’t be permanent but won’t the silence be nice while it lasts?

Who wants to hear everything? I know I don’t. The Real Life Mute Button stops all of the vocal chords vibrations so no sound can be made by that person’s voice. Of course, it wears off after an hour. I believe that this invention will help lower 100% of your stress and headaches. Maybe with the help of the Real Life Mute Button your school or workplace can become a more peaceful place. So give yourself a break from everyday stress, you deserve it.

Now some people may disagree that people should just push through the day, but some sounds are just unnecessary stress. For instance, why put up with the guy at the movies talking on his cell phone, humming during a test or even people yelling to miss a free throw? Plus, it’s no damage to the person you use it on, since the effect is only temporary. Headaches from unnecessary sounds can be prevented with this and it not only helps you but the people around you. So don’t put up with it another day, go get a Real Life Mute Button.

Payton Brown

Do you ever think about how many people die in car crashes? There was a total reported for 2009 of nearly forty thousand deaths and millions of injuries. Many of the people that died, died because of electronics such as your cell phone or radio. Now what if there was a device that took your eyes off the radio and cell phone and got them on the road? Well, if I could, that’s exactly what I would do. That invention would prevent many unnecessary injuries and deaths.

How do so many people die in these crashes you ask? Well having your head down texting or looking for a buzzing phone is just as bad as drunk driving. Another way electronics can kill in the car is by trying to find your favorite CD’s or radio stations. So why don’t we already have a device that will stop all of this?

If I was able to, I would invent a small insertable device that stopped you from taking your eyes off the road. It would insert like a CD into the loading slot and then takeover. The invention would hold your phone, text for you, answer calls for you and even load CD’s and find your favorite songs. This device would save many lives.

The invention I describe would be for all ages, not just for phone crazy teens. Honestly, it’s hard to find adults these days that don’t always have their phone at their hip at all times. There are some but a very few that don’t. I think the very best part of the device would be that it would fit in any and every car slot making it accessible to anyone with a car. 
If I could invent something, I would invent a Money Card that would stop all use of paper money. I think my invention would really help. All you would need is a machine like an ATM in every place that takes money or payments. You would just swipe your card, and it would tell you how much you made at work for the pay period. It would automatically be put in your savings, checking accounts and other accounts that need to be paid. You wouldn’t have to carry money around with you at all.

The Money Card would have a thumb print scan of each card holder to personally identify the person. If your card would get stolen, no one would be able to use it without your thumb for verification. You could put other people on your account, each with their own card and verification thumb print that could draw off the account. You could set limits to how much each person could use. The account owner would need to override any amounts higher than a family member is granted. You could also customize it to be any color or size of your choice.

All stores, banks, restaurants and homes will have ATMs. The card will be made out of material like harder plastic so it won’t break if you fall or twist it. The ATMs will be in your work so you could have easy access to it so you will not have to go to a bank. The card will have an application market on it. You can customize it to your needs and the needs of your family. You can also have an account where you can have a monthly account so you can get discounts on different apps or discounts on different plans you may have with your family.

My conclusion is to save on the use of paper money and to have your wages at your use at all times. It would be more convenient for everyone in your family and you can see at all times where your money goes. I hope someday it will actually happen.

That is why I invented the deer bag. This invention consists of airbags on the front, sides, and back of the outside of the car. There will be a button on the dash of the car to engage the deployment of the airbags when you think you might hit a deer. The airbags deploy and stay inflated. This will hit the deer with the airbag not the car and save the car from damage.

The deer that gets struck by the airbag may not be saved, but the car will be. The airbags will hit the deer and on contact, inflate slightly more to push the deer away from the car and off the side of the road. The deer may be saved, but may not be saved. I predict that the faster you go, the less likely the deer is to survive. The deer could land in the grass to have a softer landing, which would be better than the road. However, if it is hit on the driver’s side of the car, the deer is not likely to land in the grass. The deer will probably land on the road and will probably get run over by traffic going the other way.

When you hit the deer bag button, the bags will pop out, of course, but there will also be a pad inside the air bag to keep the deer from going through the bag and hitting the car. This will save the car by hitting the pad and not the metal of the car. So then the car won’t dent and cost you money to repair it.

I believe that everything has a solution or is a solution. I know several persons whose mobility is very much limited but who still seek freedom. I know that at one point a wheelchair was considered the solution and now a power chair or scooter is. However, these don’t work in all cases. For a person who has little joint control in their hands they can’t control the buttons, joysticks or other controls on their chair or scooter. Some of the elderly are scared of the speed or power of the chair.

Clearly, we need a better solution. I feel that a simple answer to the full and complete problem and some others is a voice controlled, minimal speed “Smart Chair.” The chair would be specially calibrated to that person’s voice. The person would be able to call out instructions. The instructions would feel much like guiding a person only more precise and responsive. They would have the power to go anywhere and the speed could also be controlled by voice commands of faster or slower.

The person would have a chair designed for them alone. It may be decorated for a disabled child or have a cup holder, tray, or other attachments. The size would be tailored to that person to provide the perfect fit. I would provide several ways to learn the use and commands. They may have a DVD personalized for them, a computer disc, a manual in book form, or even a real human being who would patiently and carefully guide them when they received their “Smart Chair.” I know that people have different needs. It would be customized down to the last detail. It would also have a button that automatically calls 911. It would be in an area that is easily reached but wouldn’t get accidentally bumped.

I conclude that for handicapped, disabled, or persons otherwise limited in their mobility, a “Smart Chair” is the solution. I think that this would be the best of both manual wheelchair and motorized scooters and chairs. This solves a lot, though there is still more improvement in mobility gain for these people. This is a good place to start. I want to invent the “Smart Chair.”
Michelle Santini  
Salem Jr. High School  ~  Ms. Carlisle  ~  Columbiana County

Super Suitcase

Have you ever gone on vacation or simply to a slumber party and forgotten something important, like night clothes, a toothbrush, or your favorite blanket? I am a very forgetful person, but I love to go places and do things that involve packing. That’s why I came up with the idea for a “Super Suitcase.”

On the outside it looks like an average suitcase, but this is no ordinary piece of luggage. It has enough storage space to hold ten heavy winter coats, and can hold up to fifty pounds. It’s also very durable and lightweight, and there is a built-in electronic checklist. You can program the device ahead of time, typing in a list of everything you think you will need for an upcoming event. If you think of more things to put on your checklist before you pack, just press the edit button and add your item. If you aren’t at home, there is the option of downloading the free application for your phone that sends the memo directly to the electronic check-list. When you are ready to pack, push the button on the electronic list that reads “playback list aloud” and the programmed voice of your choosing will start to read the list to you. If the voice is going too fast, slow down the speed on the list or press pause between each item. In the suitcase, there are separate labeled sections for each of your items. Some of the sections include dental hygiene products, hair products, bedding, day clothes, night clothes, and miscellaneous. In the clothing sections, there is enough space for a month’s worth of outfits. You can also fold all of the sections down to make one big space, which comes in handy if you are using it for moving.

Most people don’t like plain suitcases. That’s why the suitcase comes with six different covers to put on the outside to make it look more eye-appealing.

So why do you need this magnificent piece of luggage? For some people, packing for a long trip can be very stressful, especially if you’re trying to get a whole family ready to go. With this suitcase, packing or moving houses is a cinch. There’s also the problem of forgetting vital items. With the electronic check-list, you will never forget anything again. This suitcase can make your vacation more enjoyable, or your move less stressful.

Kyle Dart  
Western Local High School  ~  Ms. Day  ~  Pike County

Solar Powered Road Heaters

My invention would be solar powered road heaters. The main reason for my invention is that in the winter time where we live our road freezes over with ice, and nobody can come down our road especially the snow plows. So I miss school because the road is not tended to and the bus cannot make it up our road. We have seen on many occasions people who are not from our area; they speed down and around one of the sharp corners and crash into the ditch or a tree. Another reason for this particular invention would be that the school only has three snow days this winter season opposed to the five snow days we usually have each year. There is quite a bit of snow that accumulates up here on top of our hill in Pike County.

As to the construction of the road heaters, they would be made of heavy wire mesh in a diamond pattern that are laid into the roads under the asphalt base that stay heated during the winter time to keep the road tops from becoming snow and ice covered. The main idea is that the mesh in the road will emit a constant low heat; this would be similar to the heated coils you see under bathroom tiles. In this way it will melt the snow and ice keeping the roads snow free and less slippery. Also, this invention would reduce winter time car crashes and probably save many lives. The mesh would also be waterproof so any water that gets to it will not damage it, which is necessary for the base under gravel roads.

Regarding the power needed to generate the heat in the mesh; this source would come from rigid solar panels that are mounted to the tops of the telephone poles that are along the side of the roads. These panels would be set at a slight forty-five degree angle to prevent snow or ice from building up on them. The reason for using solar panels is to cut the cost of the need to generate electricity. The solar panels also produce more of what is needed, and the energy created from them can be used in the homes in the area to help consumers cut their energy bills in half.

Benefits from using solar powered road heaters:  
1  ~  No expansion and contraction of ice, no pot holes; 
2  ~  No salt needed, rust greatly reduced on automobiles; 
3  ~  Fuel saving, no snow plows, also tax savings; 
4  ~  No purchase of salt needed.

I think this is a safe and energy efficient way to keep our roads safe.

Kayla Johnson  
River Valley Middle School  ~  Ms. Deel  ~  Gallia County

Busy Bus Button

Wouldn’t life be better if bus idling could be prevented?  I believe it would, so I am going to create a new invention. I would call it the “Busy Bus Button”. Everyone in the school district that rides a bus would use it. I believe a lot of parents would support it.

This invention works with the simple press of a button. Once you press the button, it lights up a sign outside your house alerting the bus driver that your child is not riding. This keeps the bus driver from stopping and wasting time and gas for nothing.

The “Busy Bus Button” helps with multiple problems. These problems include traffic, gas, extended bus hours, and pollution. “How?” you might ask. Well it helps because the less a bus stops with cars behind it, the less cars will build up behind it. It helps with gas because sitting at a stop with the engine running takes up the gas that costs us a lot of money. It helps with extended bus hours because when the bus stops to wait on a kid, it takes up minutes kids could be at school. It also helps with pollution because when your bus is sitting while turned on, with carbon monoxide flowing out, it’s harming our environment.

I truly believe this idea will help everyday lives. Just take a second and imagine it. Wouldn’t it be nice? This is my brilliant invention and I hope you’ve enjoyed reading about it.
By computerization, I can duplicate a total and complete profile or replica of an individual. Through a process called, Andro-Kineticism, the results are astounding. The android, or the robotic “Mii”, will be invented to look just like his owner. Also, through careful programming this machine can be made to always be one step ahead in every aspect of his owner. Programmed with a special cybernetic “soul” chip, the android will experience your every move and be a ward of your machine can be made to always be one step ahead in every aspect of his owner. Programmed with a special cybernetic “soul” chip, the android will experience your every move and be a ward of your very thoughts and intents plus be in total submission to your every command.

By having a robot to help you stay motivated you can reach your goals and lose weight. It’s like having your own personal trainer with you at all times. On the days that you are not at home and you are on the verge of having one too many fries, or you have the urge to binge on a Twinkie, a person who was always being scolded for waiting five minutes after bedtime to brush her teeth. Now, this person can brush her teeth and be in bed a whole minute before the father comes in and starts the scolding. So, she can dillydally five minutes past her bedtime and still not be in trouble.

That is why I am here today to introduce my new discovery. I have a solution. It is called “Andro-Kinetics and Scientific Robotic Discovery.” Allow me to explain. Using the same concept of the making of the “Mii’s” on the Wii game system, I have come up with the ultimate weight loss solution.

People have tried and failed to lose weight all around the globe. Some have succeeded, but many more haven’t. For example, take the show, “The Biggest Loser.” The contestants are willing to place their lives up against the challenge of losing weight, but many have failed or just given up. America has ranked in the top 10 in the world for obesity. In restaurants, every 3-4 people are overweight. What’s worse is that when obese people have children, they also tend to be overweight.

My invention is a toothbrush with bristles on all angles of the tip, rather than on one side of the toothbrush. The handle is made of plastic, so it won’t break if it is dropped. Plus, it will solve the problem of taking a full two minutes to brush your teeth. With this toothbrush, you could do something more important in that spare minute you have, thanks to having the time cut in half. The possibilities are endless for what you could do in this extra time.

This revolutionary and speedy new toothbrush gets top and bottom teeth at the same time, cutting the time in half. Never again will you be late for the bus or a job interview because you had forgotten to brush your teeth until the last minute. The inspiration behind this ingenious idea was a person who was always being scolded for waiting five minutes after bedtime to brush her teeth. Now, this person can brush her teeth and be in bed a whole minute before the father comes in and starts the scolding. So, she can dillydally five minutes past her bedtime and still not be in trouble.

This fantastic, amazing, and even astounding toothbrush is not electronic so it never needs batteries or a charger! Most fancy toothbrushes cost a fortune, but this one only costs $9.95! This totally awesome toothbrush is called “Wonder Brush.”

To recap, the Wonder Brush has bristles on every angle, cuts the brushing time in half, never needs batteries/charger, and has a low price of only $9.95. You could not ask for a better toothbrush than the Wonder Brush! It is also the perfect stocking gift! Or maybe a birthday present for someone you really care about! The ideas are limitless for giving. Hope you enjoy this product.
**Jenna Greewell**
*Newcomerstown Middle School ~ Mrs. Anderson ~ Tuscarawas County*

The Ne-O Glow is the Thing You Know!

Are you tired of waking up in the middle of the night just to use the bathroom? Is turning on the bathroom light a hassle? Would you like to be able to only wake up and not get blinded by that bright light? Well fear not! Now you can get the Ne-O Glow! The Ne-O Glow is a toilet that lights up in your choice of a neon color. You won’t have to turn the light on and you sure will not miss! All your bathroom problems will be gone! You won’t have to even turn a switch on to make your toilet glow, it turns on when it gets dark in the room.

No matter day or night, it will always be there for you. You can 100% count on the Ne-O Glow.

Another thing about the Ne-O Glow is that it makes your toilet water half lime green and half hot pink. If you have a problem with it being this way you can always customize it yourself. We have all neon colors and different patterns. You can even send in a loved one’s picture and we can get that to be in your customized toilet like a hologram. Anything at all you want and we’ve got it!

Also, when you flush the toilet the neon water becomes an attraction and shoots up in fountains. It can tell whenever you are sitting on it or standing up. Another thing that happens when you flush the toilet; it sings. It sings the tune of “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star”, only it says, “Tinkle, Tinkle Little Splash”, or “Drop, Drop Big Plop.” It knows what you have done!

We are working on how to make the Ne-O Glow even better. This would be the perfect gift to buy a loved one that would use this with pride. So buy the Ne-O Glow today at www.BuyMeNeo.org.

**Danielle Mathes**
*Dawson Bryant Middle School ~ Ms. Holland ~ Lawrence County*

My Cure

One of the major diseases that have a lasting impact on people’s lives is diabetes. There are many things that have been invented to help work with diabetics like shots, pens, and pumps. It’s very hard to keep track of your shots or pump, insulin, blood sugar, and carbohydrate count. Some people have to carry bags around containing a book for carbs, glucose checker, and extra insulin and shots. I think if there was an invention to combine everything into one, it would make a lot of people's lives easier.

I would attempt to create an invention, sort of like a pump, that keeps track of blood sugar, gives insulin at time intervals, has a glossary of foods to select with carb count, has back-up insulin, and has glucose tablets for low sugar. It would go in your stomach, leg, or side like a normal pump, and the reservoir would have to be changed every three days. Because it is placed under the skin, it could take small samples of blood and check the glucose level. Depending on the person’s bolus rate, it would give the needed amount of insulin every six minutes.

Carb counting is one of the most stressful things for diabetics with pumps to keep up with. Some people carry books when they go out to eat that has the carb count for the food they’re eating. This can be very time consuming and hard to do, because diabetics need their carbs entered as soon as they eat in case of high blood sugar. My pump would have a glossary of foods with carb count, and you could enter meal combinations using the pumps keyboard.

Low blood sugar or very high blood sugar can be very scary for diabetics. The pump monitors the blood sugar, so it can give a correction if the sugar level spikes. This stops people from having to bring extra shots or extra insulin with them when they go somewhere. The pump would have a small compartment for glucose tablets that can raise low blood sugar.

I think my invention could help many people that struggle with this problem. I believe it could greatly impact people’s lives.

**Laikyn Lovas**
*Logan-Hocking Middle School ~ Ms. Hayden ~ Hocking County*

How Does a Microchip Help You in Golf?

Have you ever been playing golf and not known where your golf ball went? This invention may help with that common problem. A small microchip that you put onto your golf ball will help. The microchip will not affect how you hit the ball or how many yards it will go. The microchip would stick onto your golf ball. It can be removed with a special liquid you can order separately.

A built-in screen on your golf bag will direct you to where your golf ball went. The screen will have a GPS to locate the exact longitude and latitude of your golf ball. The screen would be associated with Google maps and have blueprints of every golf course nationwide.

This product will be wanted by every school golf team in the world. This device will save time during matches so the students can be home in time to finish their homework.

As for the more experienced golfers, this device can give them more talking time than looking time on the course. Many pros would love this invention, too. For the tournaments that are taped for television, it may save a few hours of airtime, which means less money a company would have to pay to sponsor the tournaments.

This invention could be in an assortment of colors including black, blue, pink, red, green and yellow. Schools could order special sets that have their school's colors. Also, for the sports fanatics, they can buy sets of the screen and microchip in their favorite team's colors.

Many amateurs and professionals will adore this item. Schools and tours will buy this set in bulk to save time (and sometimes money). Who knew that a microchip on your golf ball and screen on your golf bag could help you find your golf ball quicker in matches or just-for-fun games?
Clara Smith  
Skyvue Elementary ~ Ms. Matz ~ Monroe County

The Super Sock Sorter

You are in your laundry room doing laundry. After washing, drying, and folding a couple loads of laundry you look down and see a clothes basket full of socks. So you take them to the living room, dump them out, and sit for hours matching socks with the company of the television. You get so aggravated because you have half a basket full of closely related socks and you don’t know which pairs match. Well not anymore! If you have ever been in this situation, I have the thing just for you, “The Super Sock Sorter.”

As a teenager, I have many chores that I have to do at home. One of them is to match and mate the clean socks. This job takes me forever! I always get down to the last 10 or 12 that are so closely related. This was something that caused a problem for me at least every week. This is what influenced me to invent “The Super Sock Sorter.”

“The Super Sock Sorter” is a machine that sorts your socks for you. You dump your socks into the top of the machine. The socks are then held in a basket. One at a time, they go out of the basket into an area where their picture is taken. A computer inside reads the picture and sends it to a slot with the exact same kinds of socks. Once all the socks are sorted into a slot, two by two they are matched together and spit out at the bottom.

“The Super Sock Sorter” solves a huge problem for almost all families. It helps sort and match all socks. Sometimes you don’t have time or you can’t tell which socks match because they are closely related, well “The Super Sock Sorter” will help you out.

“The Super Sock Sorter” is needed in every home. It will save you time and make laundry a bit more exciting. “The Super Sock Sorter” is only two payments of $49.99, but call right now and it will only be one payment of $49.99. There is a limited number, so call 1-800-497-SOCK right now! Sales associates are standing by. “The Super Sock Sorter” would make perfect Christmas or birthday gifts! So call right now! “The Super Sock Sorter” will sweep your socks right off of you!

Chloe Torrence  
Hiland Middle School ~ Ms. Myrick ~ Holmes County

The Teacher Translator

The room was silent, all except the sound of my pencil grinding against notebook paper. “Why does homework have to be so complicated?” Math wasn’t that hard, and neither was history, but science! Ugh, I hate science. If only there was something that could make school easier, something that could help me get better grades.

I called my friend Gerald; he’s a super-nerd. I asked him to come over to help me do my homework. He was going to; just not the way he expected.

“Brandon, Gerald’s here!” my mom yelled.

Once we were in my room, I got out a tape recorder, a couple of batteries, some wire, and a wire cutter.

“Look Gerald, I want you to make me a teacher translator so I can understand what I am supposed to be learning.”

I sat there and watched him work. After about an hour, he murmured, “Try this.” I plugged earphones into the teacher translator. “Okay, now say something nerdy.”

Gerald said, “The Pythagorean Theorem is A squared plus B squared equals C squared.”

My translator said, “If you square the two shortest sides of a triangle and add them together then find the square root of the number equals the third side’s length.”

The next day, in science we studied the structure of an atom. Mr. Swithy announced, “The nucleus of an atom is a small, dense, positively charged mass located in the center of an atom.” The translator processed the information and said, “There’s a really small sphere in the middle of an atom that has a positive charge, it’s also pretty heavy.”

Things were so much easier to learn with my teacher translator. My grades soared above my previous ones, and I was now earning As and Bs.

To conclude, I think everyone should have a teacher translator.

Tara Rogers  
Canfield Village ~ Ms. Nagy ~ Mahoning County

The “Real” Copy/Paste Button

We’ve all had to copy a long, random product number, phrase, or other sequence, and we’ve all messed it up. Well, fear no more, there is a solution! Introducing the new “Real” Copy/Paste Button, here to make sure you never have to memorize another random phrase again!

The Copy/Paste Button is portable; its dimensions are only 4x6 inches, or the size of a medium note card, and 1 inch thick, to provide room for all of its features. The device has a large touch screen along with the two buttons, “copy” and “paste”, a stylus that fits into a compartment in the side, and a camera which takes high-quality pictures as well. To transfer information, this device has a small door in the bottom under the camera which opens to reveal the ink cartridge used for transferring copied words onto a piece of paper. Its other mode of transferring information is through a USB connector which pops out of a compartment in the side, and plugs straight into your computer.

The “Real” Copy/Paste Button is also very easy to use! First, you take a picture of the phrase you want to copy. Next, take your stylus, and highlight the phrase on the touch screen. Press “Copy” and it will make a word document with your phrase using its special letter-recognizing technology. Then choose whether you want it uploaded to the computer or printed on paper. For paper, you lay the device onto the surface; lined up with where you want it to begin printing, then you press “Paste” and the phrase is printed on your paper for you! If you want to upload it to the computer, just take the USB connector out of its compartment, and plug it into your computer! When you have clicked the text box that you want the information to be transferred to, press “Paste” and the phrase will be typed into the appropriate box. The whole process should take less than a minute — it’s that easy!

The “Real” Copy/Paste Button is sure to make your life easier, so you’ll never have to memorize or copy another phrase onto the computer again! So go ahead, figure out what that warning on the box says in Spanish! Just copy it, and paste it right into an online translator. Pick your Copy/Paste Button up today!
Darci Farley
River View Middle School  ~  Mr. Dickson  ~  Coshocton County

If I could invent something to solve a problem, the solution would be called a GPS Tracker. A GPS tracker would be used in any kind of emergency, especially when you don’t know where you are.

Whether you are on the side of a road, on a mountain, on a boat in the ocean, the GPS Tracker system recognizes exactly where you are, using the exact coordinates and all. You may ask yourself, “How can this work?”

To start off, it is immune to all weather conditions. A special cover is put on the device making it waterproof, etc, and very tough to break. As of the smart tracking system and how it tracks you, it is simply a small chip that knows all the locations on the world, which is somewhat similar to a GPS.

A medium-sized red button is located on the front of the device. When you push the button, it signals the nearest help even if you are very far away from civilization. It is mostly like a 911 call. When the people (such as police, firemen, etc) answer the phone it will give the country, state, county, name of forest, coordinates. Basically every bit of information to make sure that they find you.

As for the batteries, it takes “Button Cell” batteries, which you find in watches. However, the device isn’t actually on all the time. In fact, the batteries are only used when you push the red button for help. That saves a lot of batteries! It turns back off when it is done searching for where you are and signaling for help.

The size of the GPS Tracker is about the size of an iPod Shuffle. If you are not sure exactly what it is, it is a small device approximately 2-3 inches that plays music. If the GPS Tracker were to be around that size, it could be easily portable.

To make sure it isn’t easily lost, also on the cover there is a special backing to the device that is Velcro-like, with a strong force. With the GPS Tracker being small, portable, and of course being very usable during any kind of emergency, I believe that this easy, yet complex system would not just change one state or one country, but change the world.

Seth Adkins
Buckeye Trail Middle School  ~  Ms. Lamphar  ~  Guernsey County

There are many things in Appalachia that could be changed. One of them is the stereotype of Appalachian people as “hillbillies” with bare feet and bad teeth. To address this issue, I have come up with a wonderful invention. My idea is a toothbrush that has toothpaste and floss built into the handle.

This new type of toothbrush would be an innovative concept in the dental field. It will have everything included that is necessary for optimum dental health. The toothbrush head would be just like a regular toothbrush with soft flexible bristles to clean teeth gently without damaging gums. The handle will be made of a hard plastic shell that is designed to be easy to grip. The inside of the handle is where the toothpaste is stored. In the neck of the toothbrush, there would be vacuum tubes and valves that, with the easy push of a button, pump out just enough toothpaste for each brushing. This toothpaste would be pumped into the bristles so that there is no messy spill or waste of toothpaste. On the side of the handle, there is a spring-loaded flosser. Just the simple flick of your thumb will release the floss. Both the toothpaste and the floss will come in different flavors. The toothbrush itself could be available in different colors.

Good dental health is very important. The health of your teeth and gums is related to the health of your whole body. Doctors have studied that, if you have sticky plaque on your teeth, you could have plaque in your arteries. So clean teeth could lead to a healthier heart.

This invention would also be better for our economic wellness. Since the key components of dental health are combined into one, this could cost an average Appalachian family less than having to buy all three separately. This invention could be manufactured in Appalachian states, thus giving jobs to local workers. This would stimulate our regional economy, and boost morale in our communities by showing that if young people put their bright minds to a task, we can help our community and our country. Then Appalachian people would be recognized for being contemporary thinkers and problem-solvers.

Kaitlynn Mickey
Bishop Flaget  ~  Ms. Ames  ~  Ross County

If you think about it, there are many kids who don’t know much about a parent. Maybe the war has taken their loved one’s life or they are a POW/MIA before the child could get to know them. I would want to know everything about my parent. What was his/her favorite color? What was his/her favorite song? What did he/she look like? All these questions would come to mind, so how can we fix this problem? One way that I think we can do this is by a special journal.

This journal would be able to do much more than just a normal one you write in. This journal would be able to record a message and record a video. On each page or two there would be a topic such as favorite food, song, or funny stories. There could also be a section for just special things the parent would want the child to know about them. The journal would help kids better understand who their parent was and how great they would have been.

This journal would be helpful to kids to fill the gaps about their parents. Just think if you went your whole life not truly knowing who your parent was, what his or her voice sounded like, or just simple everyday things that we all take for granted. These kids that lose a parent because of war have a permanent scar and just a simple journal that would be able to show the parent’s smile, how his/her laugh sounded and just things like that would help heal that scar just a little.

You may get angry with your parents but just think if you lost one. How devastated you would be even if you did not know them. This journal could change kids and help them to not feel alone. This could also change the way kids know their parents. No matter what though, remember to love and respect your parents because you never know what might happen.
If I could develop an invention that would help the world today, my idea would be to create a Sub-Marine Transit system, so that people would have an alternative means to travel the world. My invention would solve a tremendous amount of problems facing the world and economy today, as well as boosting tourism in many countries. My invention would also promote a greener earth by reducing pollution caused by current methods of transportation.

My Sub-Marine transit system would consist of pressurized tunnels throughout the oceans of the world, throughout which shuttle buses, propelled by air pressure would commute passengers from one destination to another destination much like the subway systems used in America. Construction would also consist of underwater terminal stations where passengers could change shuttles depending on where their destination or country is. This idea is conceivable because similar ideas and inventions currently exist; such as the underwater tunnels at Sea World and the Hampton Bay bridge tunnel, which makes underwater traveling already possible.

One of the largest obstacles facing people today, especially terrorist attacks on 911, preventing world travel, is people’s fears of flying or getting on an airplane. My invention would give an alternate, safer way to travel, while relaxing and enjoying a scenic view of the wildlife in the ocean which would be more appealing.

The economy, not only in our country but other countries as well, would benefit from my invention because tourism would increase therefore bringing the governments more money from tourist traveling and spending money, because more people would travel if they had an alternative to flying.

One of the largest problems facing our earth today is global warming cause by pollution. Since my Sub-Marine transits would be fueled by air pressure alone, my invention not only would contribute to reducing pollution caused by traveling in aircrafts, my invention would make more people choose this method of travel in order to promote a greener earth, reducing pollution from commercial airlines which are powered by jet fuel. Traveling would also be cheaper and more economical because you don’t have to pay the higher prices charged by airlines to cover the fuel expenses, and more people would be enticed to, and could alter to travel, this boosting the economy for all countries, well as boosting tourism in many countries. My invention would also promote a greener earth by reducing pollution caused by current methods of transportation.

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The solution should solve the problem of wrecks or accidents caused by drunk driving. This invention is very neat and cool I think. It might even have a feature or two that saves on gas, but the most important features are the ones that save lives.

I hope to see my invention on the market someday. That would be really cool to be able to save many lives.

The Grow-With-Me Coat would look like a regular coat with a zipper down the front. It would be fully lined with a warm material such as fleece. On the back would be another zipper covered with the same waterproof material as the outside of the coat. This cloth could Velcro over the zipper. When you want to expand the coat, you would unzip the zipper revealing a new color underneath. The different color would provide a new look for the next year.

The sleeves of the Grow-With-Me Coat would also expand. The end could be rolled up on the inside of the sleeve. It would be fastened with a zipper or Velcro. The next year the sleeve would be pulled down to make it longer.

I think many people would buy this coat. It could be made of inexpensive materials like the fleece lining. Families that do not have much money could let their kids have a nice fitting coat. The Grow-With-Me Coat would keep kids warm and dry for more than just one year.
The Lovely War Machine

Invention is an act of creativity
that results in a device, process
or technique novel enough to produce
a significant change in the life of individuals.

There once stood an old, damaged,
rusty machine in the middle of a crucified battlefield.

This machine is very valuable as its job is to cleanse the blood from the battlefield as it resembled the cleansed and free ocean water.

This wise machine set high expectations for those who cherished it as you may cherish a Holy Bible.

As these high expectations were set, this old, dirty and rugged town was then cleansed by the power of the lovely machine and brought forward a better future and destiny as it portrayed its ability to drift independently as if resembling the ocean water.
David Ferguson
Ironton High School ~ Ms. Metzger ~ Lawrence County

If I could invent a machine,
I would put every hair where it should be
This machine round and red
would be placed on your head.
It would run on batteries
that could be recharged.
You could use it every day
and receive no harm.
You would put this machine
on your hair for 5 minutes or so,
or take it off
when you think is is done.
Everyone would comment
on your stylish hair.
And having a bad hair day
would be very rare.
This invention would keep your hair
in place for 5 hours
unless you buy the deluxe version
that has twice the power.
of course I wouldn’t use it
because I’m a guy.
But if some girls didn’t have one,
well they’d probably cry.
I would call my invention the omnisence
And sell it online
For eighteen dollars and twenty-nine cents.

Jacob Hirsch
Chillicothe High School ~ Ms. Swenson ~ Ross County

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I would put every hair where it should be
This machine round and red
would be placed on your head.
It would run on batteries
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And sell it online
For eighteen dollars and twenty-nine cents.

Samantha Crooks
Goshen High School ~ Mrs. Duer ~ Clermont County

Thank Thee for Thy Music

I thank thee for thy music
It flows through and through
I thank thee for thy music
“It’s the best gift!” I’ll always mew.
Though its writing is sublime
Though its writing can be shrewd
I will invent a something
That your gift will help me through
Its sound and feel will always, always stay
‘Tis your gift that keeps the fears away
I thank thee for thy music
‘Tis the best to receive from you
I thank thee for thy music
And may you hear my music’s mew
Haley Weaver  
Maysville High School ~ Ms. Stotts ~ Muskingum County

To invent something, to change one thing in life
and start a whole new way of living,
To be able to change how I write,
how I parse my thoughts onto empty pages.
If just by reading these words, you could...
relive the bliss, feel the heat of raging fires,
see the extraordinary butterflies, smell the fresh roses,
rejoice in someone’s embrace,
notice the laughter in someone’s eyes,
see the smile you’re longing to see.
If you could just relive everything,
seeing every moment would be like looking through a window.
It wouldn’t be just words, it would be real.
Just...close your eyes and imagine
how it would be to pick up an old notebook,
possibly...your grandmother’s,
to read that old notebook and live in her memories.
If even for just a few moments I wouldn’t have to live my life,
But, I could relive hers,
page by page,
I would learn so much.
Maybe, I would treat her a little better after experiencing what she did.
Or maybe...
I could find a clue of who I am within the moments of her life.
Or maybe...
I might realize that I’m never really alone.
To create something...
To be able to have a blank mind like
a book, completely unwritten. To
just open the door on your heart
and find a way to really listen...
If I could...I’d create something...
Anything..to relive the memories
through hands that
cradle a thousand pages.

Lauren Hopkins  
Vinton County High School ~ Ms. Wolford ~ Vinton County

An invention to end an aching heart;
An invention to revive a dying art;
Let a human’s hopes remain intact;
To glue the shattered pieces back.
An invention to let the heart sing;
An invention to let dreams take wing;
Ending the strife many feel inside;
Releasing all those whom decided to hide;
An invention to wipe away false expressions;
An invention to delete worsening depressions;
Letting them feel once more;
Healing the broken core.
An invention to end a breaking heart;
And let all those breathe in a fresh start.

Eric Ward  
Monroe Central High School ~ Ms. Meade ~ Monroe County

The Diagnosis Machine

I can read your body like an open book
So submit your DNA and we will take a look
With a small, saliva, sample, I will diagnose
So step right up, come now you really must be close
I’m the all knowing mechanical physician in your department store
Just add your sample, and I will gladly tell you more
Feed me lots and lots of coins in my slanted slot I’ll tell
you what’s up, I’ll give you what I’ve got
When I’m done studying, you’ll hear a loud BEEP I’ll
print out my findings, so watch for the heap The big, big
pile of paper will fall to the floor
Because I tell you everything, you’ll have info galore
So take this to your doctor, and save yourself some tests
I’ll lead them in the right direction, I wish you the best
My carefully catalogued database will deliver logical findings
I can’t be sued like other doctors, and my rulings are not binding
If I break, you’re sure to hear a thundering CRASH Call a
technician to diagnose me, don’t discard as trash!
**Jennie Chordas**  
*Morgan High School ~ Ms. Pratt ~ Morgan County*

_The Pill_

If I could invent something  
To make the world a little brighter,  
I know what I would do.  

I would create a little pill,  
A little tablet that would kill  
All ignorance in the human heart.  

Not attacking hearts or brains, but souls,  
Filling in the gaping holes,  
And destroying selfishness and hate.  

It would let our souls see,  
Which would increase charity,  
In turn decreasing poverty,  
That would eliminate enmity  
To make the world one entity  
And bring us all together.  

Making all this happen with one pill,  
That when taken, would kill  
All ignorance in the human heart.

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**Nicolas Dean**  
*Crestview High School ~ Ms. Wycoff ~ Columbiana County*

Majestic, soothing, peaceful, elegant.  
Cobalt, vast, brine, fathomless.  
Energy, habitat, marine, ageless.  

Ocean.  
Disruption, corruption, hazardous, pollution.  
Accidents, dilemma, costly, murderous.  
Flammable, unsanitary, harmful, destruction.  

Oil spills.  
Solution, invention, change, improvement.  
Machine, tiny, inexpensive, vacuum.  
Countless, fast, clean, separation.  
Nano Oil Nullifier.

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**Katie Oiler**  
*Buckeye Local High School ~ Ms. Rielly ~ Jefferson County*

Why invent a 3-D TV, when you have a family?  
Pills that make you skinny, when God made you perfect?  
Telescopes to see the universe, if we are the universe?  
Microscopes to spy on innocent germs who are just doing their job?  
Why not something to stop war, Bullying, Starvation, Abuse, Depression,  
What I invent,  
You won’t know what it is,  
But it’s there.  
The smoky atmosphere,  
Will change a life completely. Everything will be better,  
Like your own perfect world.  
You won’t have to worry about people fighting over silliness. Nobody will be sad.  
Nobody has to get hurt, destroyed from the inside out.  
Babies won’t starve, children won’t die.  
Men won’t beat women, children.  
Nobody will be sad.  
Because what I invent, will make it better.  
People will see it differently.  
We can make it together, if we work together.  
Color a picture, but stay inside the lines.  
You won’t go crazy, if you use your mind.  
This mysterious acid is destroying our world,  
So grab this invention, and use it wisely.  
Cause who knows the wonders it can do.  
The invention is not of my imagination nor yours,  
But is the invention of a new Universe.

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**Cody Robinson**  
*Franklin Local Community School ~ Ms. Earich ~ Perry County*

_Rejuvenating Spray_

When teens are sad and dreary....  
And just a little teary—  
Let the Depress-away save the day!  
With a zip... a zap......and a splash  
Depression is gone in a flash  
Your eyes dry up and the sun comes out....  
You start to shout....just let it out....  
“I no longer dwell in sadness, but in happiness”  
Thanks, Depress-away—  
Just spray and say, “Oh, happy day.”
**Kristyn Wolf**

*Boardman High School ~ Ms. Crilley ~ Mahoning County*

**An Invention Called Hope**

I look around and see
crime and destruction surrounding thee.
The death and the wrongs, where
are the wishes and the songs that
used to be here?
Instead there’s just fear
of the next evil awaiting your door
of the next war-
Tell me, what are we fighting for?

The world sits on their graves, scheming
while they should be dreaming,
doing something by doing nothing – corrupting.

I will change your world; I will change your mind
With only my heart and silent, I will help you find
what you lost. I will move hills, valleys, and rocks
to save this world, I will turn back the clock

I open my eyes, and the grass is not green
The sky is still black, the world is still mean.

I need something powerful and willing and slow
So I look deep inside myself and find something that I intend to let grow
And I smile. I have provided the world with a rope
to climb out of its sorrow – an invention I call hope.

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**Nova McCormick**

*River View High School ~ Mr. Meiser ~ Coshocton County*

If I could invent anything,
What would it be?
A pair of rocket roller skates,
for daddy and me.

I’d strap them on his feet,
And he would strap them on mine,
That way I know together,
We can spend some time

We would race down the streets
Together him and me,
Laughing and smiling,
For everyone to see.

The looks on everyone’s face
As we pass by
Make me feel
As if my skates are alive.

Swerving, streaking,
And turning in the streets
Is the way my invention
Will bring joy to the people we meet.

The problem it would solve
I’m here to say
our relationship bond
meets our needs in every way

Now my rocket powered skates,
are the best, you see,
because they bring love,
between daddy and me.
Tegan Price  
*Meadowbrook High School ~ Mrs. Bickford ~ Guernsey County*

**A Time Machine**

If only I had a time machine,  
That could take me back to the past  
Back when my life was at its best  
The times when we loved and laughed  
Living in the house that built me,  
And around the best of friends  
Now I look back and want be there  
To never take another breath for granted  
When I still had my grandpa’s  
And my first horses  
Some things came with us, but most of them stayed  
The best of intentions were made by this change.  
I wish we could go back but then what would there be of my future.  
How I love my daughter, but if we had stayed,  
I would thank god for having not met her father.  
Oh, if only I had a time machine.

Tori Gonzales  
*Claymont High School ~ Ms. Rossi ~ Tuscarawas County*

**Relieving Gum**

"Phew!" is the sound that escapes my pouty lips, feeling relieved as I chew.  
My heart goes back to skipping the beat I once knew.  
My palms no longer drip sweat from anxiety, like a faucet with a leak.  
It is amazing that something so little makes my stomach no longer feel weak.  
My body does not continue to shake with stress.  
I begin to get perky because I am no longer a mess.  
As the gum gets soft, the fears and frets dissolve.  
All of my problems seem to resolve.  
The knot in my stomach quickly unties itself.  
A tiny piece of gum relieves my mind and helps my health.  
In school, gum is like currency and when you open a package, everybody is your friend.  
It would put stress, anxiety, and tension for students to an end.  
Many different people would purchase it and agree,  
Because this product would be sugar free.  
My heart and head quit throbbing like a drum.  
Being relaxed is no longer difficult, thanks to the ingredients in a new gum.
Recognition and Appreciation

In September 2006, the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio sponsored the first *I’m a Child of Appalachia*® Writing Contest, open to students in grades 4-8, to encourage students’ consideration of the geographic strengths of the region they call home. Five years later, the Foundation has greatly expanded the contest through the help of partners, including increased awards and a 9th grade poetry component.

With the generous partnership of the Walmart Foundation, every grade level in each of the region’s 32 counties had the opportunity to receive a student and teacher award. Each teacher of a winning student received a $500 classroom enrichment grant to spend in his or her classroom on activities and items that enrich curriculum; and each winning student was awarded a $50 Walmart gift card.

Walmart’s partnership also supported a field trip drawing for classrooms participating in the contest, with winning teachers planning a field trip aligning with their current curriculum, and the three classroom winners include:

- Barb Knapp’s Millersburg Elementary 4th Grade Classroom, Holmes County
- Kara Harrison’s Dawson-Bryant Middle School 7th Grade Classroom, Lawrence County
- Susan Pratt’s Morgan High School 9th Grade Classroom, Morgan County

The Foundation believes one of the most important ways we can shape a positive future for Appalachian Ohio is by encouraging our region’s youth to believe in their ability to succeed. Through the *I’m a Child of Appalachia*® Writing Contest and in partnership with the Walmart Foundation, FAO is working to prompt thoughts and conversation in classrooms across the region with positive messages to instill the mindsets and confidence necessary for success.

In addition to the Walmart Foundation, FAO would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the following colleges for their generous support in reviewing student submissions: Kent State University — Tuscarawas; Marietta College; Ohio University; Shawnee State University; Washington State Community College; and Zane State University. The Foundation would also like to give a special thanks to the International Association of Administrative Professionals for donating their time and support.

This year’s contest, which is open to all 4th through 9th grade Appalachian Ohio students, asked participants to put on their entrepreneurial thinking caps and respond to the question, “If you could invent something, what would it be and what problem would it solve?”

FAO extends special appreciation to AEP and Edward Jones for providing seed funds to start the writing contest; to Barb Hansen, an FAO board member, who believed in the idea of the contest and made it work; and to Stephanie Kaple, an FAO volunteer who organized the 2010 contest. Without their early support and vision, the contest would not be where it is today.

*Cover and interior illustrations: Doug McGuire*