I’ve Just Had a Bright Idea!

Scoular Anderson
An invention is a clever idea or thing. An inventor is a person who thinks up the clever idea.
Sometimes inventors see something strange, which gives them an idea.

A man saw bits of a plant stuck on his dog's fur.

This man invented Velcro.
This man was a painter ...

... and inventor.
Other inventors made his ideas work 400 years later.
The Earl of Cardigan invented the ...

The Earl of Sandwich invented the ...
The Duke of Wellington invented the ... 

Charles Macintosh invented the ...
How do you see in the dark?

Some bright ideas:

- **Torch**
- **Oil lamp**
- **Candles**
- **Gas light**
An even brighter idea:

Light bulbs were invented in 1879.

Light is made using electricity.

Light bulbs come in all shapes and sizes.

lighthouse  shop lights
How do you keep your jacket closed?

Some bright ideas:

- ties
- toggles
- buttons
- studs
An even brighter idea:

Zips were invented in 1913.

The slider pulls two rows of teeth together.

Zips are everywhere!

boots

bags
tents
How do you write a letter?

Some bright ideas:

Scratch in wax.

Carve in wood.

Write with a feather...

...or a fountain pen.
Ballpoint pens were invented in 1938.

Here is the ink.

The ball rolls round.

The ball puts the ink on the paper.

Over 14 million biros are sold every day.
A chilly idea

How do you keep food cool?

Some bright ideas:

- Ice house
- Ice box
- Ice drawer
- Ice delivery cart
An even brighter idea:

Refrigerators were invented in 1834.
How do you travel quickly?

Some bright ideas:

run

ride

Go by horse and coach.
An even brighter idea:

Pedal bicycles were invented in 1861.

Bikes have changed over the years.

The very first bicycle had no pedals.
How do you see when you drive in the rain?

**Some bright ideas:**

- **Goggles**
- **Windscreen**
- **Brushes**
An even brighter idea:

Windscreen wipers were invented in 1903.

Today, most cars have windscreen wipers at the back, too.

The first wipers had to be moved by hand.
Some ideas that weren't so bright

double umbrella

paper clothes

ripped

dishes and cups that melt - no more washing up!
**Glossary**

**ballpoint pens** pens which use a small ball to let the ink out evenly

**bicycles** transport with two wheels that move forward when the pedals are pushed round

**glider** an aircraft that has no engine

**helicopter** an aircraft that flies by spinning blades on top

**light bulbs** glass bulbs that light up by using electricity

**refrigerators** boxes where food and drink are kept cool

**Velcro** two pieces of material that stick together

**windscreen wipers** blades that move across a windscreen to keep it clear

**zips** two sets of metal or plastic teeth that are pulled together by a slider
Inventors and...
their inventions
I’ve Just Had a Bright Idea!

Workbook
Before You Read

1. Write answers to these questions. Use complete sentences.

1. What is your favourite invention?

_____________________________________________________________________

2. What is an inventor?

_____________________________________________________________________

2. Draw an invention and label it.
1. Write the names of the objects under the pictures. Use the words from the box.

chandelier  glider  refrigerator
velcro       zip       helicopter
2. Match each picture to its correct name.

1. a pedal bicycle
2. b windscreen wipers
3. c light bulb
4. d lighthouse
5. e ballpoint pens
1. Unscramble the letters and rewrite the words.

1 venrotin ______________________
2 reclve ______________________
3 egrntsa ______________________
4 traipne ______________________
5 rgthbi ______________________

2. Copy the words.

1 lighthouse ______________________
2 tent ______________________
3 refrigerator ______________________
4 bicycles ______________________
5 windscreen ______________________
1. Match the beginning of each sentence to its ending.

Sometimes inventors see something strange, 1
Light bulbs come in 2
Over 14 million biros 3
The very first bicycle 4
How do you see when 5
The first wipers had to 6

a be moved by hand.
b which gives them an idea.
c had no pedals.
d are sold every day.
e all shapes and sizes.
f you drive in the rain?
1. **Unscramble the sentences and rewrite them to match the pictures.**

1. Using made is Light electricity.

   ______________________________

   ______________________________

2. Rows slider pulls teeth two together. The of

   ______________________________

   ______________________________

3. Invented Ballpoint in were pens 1938.

   ______________________________

   ______________________________

4. Their ice. Refrigerators own make

   ______________________________

   ______________________________
1. Complete the sentences to match the text with the phrases from the boxes.

1. An inventor is a person who thinks up _____________.
2. This man invented _________________.
3. Light bulbs were invented _________________.
4. Zips were invented _________________.
5. Ice can help pain _________________.

- a clever idea
- in 1913
- go away
- in 1879
- Velcro
1. Who invented this? Write the name of the person.

The Earl of Cardigan  The Earl of Sandwich
The Duke of Wellington  Charles Macintosh

1. ___________________________

2. ___________________________

3. ___________________________

4. ___________________________
2. Choose the correct answer for each question. Circle the letter.

1. What is an invention?
   a. a clever idea or thing
   b. a clever person

2. What is an inventor?
   a. a person with a clever idea
   b. a bright idea

3. What helps you see in the dark?
   a. a torch
   b. a zip

4. Can buttons keep your jacket closed?
   a. Yes
   b. No

5. Do you find zips on tents?
   a. Yes
   b. No
1. Draw and colour your favourite invention from the story.

2. Find and circle five inventions in the word snake.

bicycle helicopter glider cart goggles umbrella
3. Look at the words in the box. Find and circle them in the word square.

idea  ice  torch  pens

candles  boots  tents  ties

bicycle  refrigerator  wipers  zips

```
c i n b g p d s o l j b
w d r i j t h b r h g o
e i c e o w t e a t o
a v y k r f e g r i t
w p o c e c a n d l e s
i s t l t h n t q g s m
p u z e p e n s f v s v
e b y d m b v j k w h z
r e f r i g e r a t o r
s c k z i p s e r s c t
```
1. Fill in the blanks with the correct invention.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ballpoint pens</th>
<th>bicycles</th>
<th>Refrigerators</th>
<th>wipers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pedal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Windscreen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. ____________ were invented in 1938.
2. ____________ were invented in 1834.
3. Pedal ____________ were invented in 1861.
4. Windscreen ____________ were invented in 1903.

2. True or False? Write “T” for True or “F” for False.

1. Early windscreens had brushes for wipers. _____
2. Some inventions were not good ideas. _____
3. Inventions never change or improve over the years. _____
4. People used wood to write on before they used wax. _____
You have completed

I’ve Just Had a Bright Idea!

Go to page 211 to get your Reward Certificate.
Learning objectives: read more challenging texts which can be decoded using their acquired phonic knowledge and skills, along with automatic recognition of high frequency words; find specific information in simple texts; distinguish fiction and non-fiction texts and the different purposes for reading them; ask and answer questions, make relevant contributions, offer suggestions and take turns.

Curriculum links: Science: Light and Dark; Pushes and Pulls; Mathematics: Counting and understanding number.

High frequency words: what, when, have, an, so, some, their, had, just, who, saw, how, two, with, were, million, over.

Interest words: Velcro, glider, helicopter, light bulbs, zips, ballpoint pens, refrigerators, bicycles, windscreen wipers.

Word count: 483.

Resources: label cards, ICT.

Getting started

- Look at the front cover and read the title *I’ve Just Had a Bright Idea!* Discuss what the bright idea in the picture is (a machine to help you get ready for school).
- Introduce the interest words that appear in the book using flashcards, e.g. Velcro. Help children to read them aloud and become familiar with them. Remind children to use phonic skills to decode new and unfamiliar words.

Reading and responding

- Read pp50–53 aloud as a group. Help children to read the captions. Stop and discuss the information contained in the pictures, dealing with children’s ideas and comments.
- Support children to read the unfamiliar words *Cardigan*, *Macintosh*, *Wellington*, *Sandwich*. Remind children to look for words within words, and to blend from left to right. Check children’s understanding.
- In pairs, ask children to return to the contents and choose an invention that they’d like to read about. Support children to use the contents, and to make meaning as they read.
- Turn to the glossary on p69. Discuss the function of a glossary and how it is organised.
Returning to the book

- Look at the timeline on pp70–71. Help children to recap each invention and read the dates aloud. Using label cards, recreate the timeline on the class wall.
- Ask each pair to describe the invention that they have found out about to the group. Encourage children to refer to the information in the book and use the pictures and captions to aid their recount.

Checking and moving on

- Use ICT to research other famous inventions, e.g. the washing machine, the motor car. Add these items to the class wall timeline.
- In pairs, plan an invention to solve a school problem, e.g. a rubbish collection machine. Draw a picture of the invention and label it using captions.
- As a group, prepare a debate between two inventors, who have to justify why their invention is the most useful.