



Introduce children to their inner innovator through open-ended activities rooted in creativity and play! At Invention Playground®, students follow their imagination and discover foundational science concepts through hands-on learning. According to research done by the Equality of Opportunity Project, children exposed to innovation early on are more likely to become inventors themselves.¹ As the nation's only PreK, nonprofit, year-round enrichment program inspired by our National Inventors Hall of Fame® (NIHF) Inductees, we provide crucial early exposure to inventors, along with other unique ways to inspire the next generation of inventors.

Highlights

- Introduces preschool children to foundational STEM concepts through interactive games and guided play.
- Focuses on hands-on learning that encourages children to build inventions and explore the world around them.
- Provides educators with ways to incorporate STEM learning in their day-to-day teaching by using lessons and strategies from NIHF Inductees.
- Creates open-ended exploration for preschoolers with expert and effective teacher instruction.
- Includes curriculum and materials that are age appropriate and designed to enhance a preschooler's innate creativity.

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These kids are so filled with enthusiasm and excitement because they are experiencing and seeing things for the first time.

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Monica Jarvis,
teacher, Invention Playground

Program Flexibility

Our easy-to-follow curriculum is comprised of four modules, each with ten 45-minute sessions.

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Math, science and invention is one of the greatest places for creativity with our children.

”

Ericka Howard, mother of an
Invention Playground participant

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Overview



National Inventors
Hall of Fame®

Inspiring future innovators

1. Bell, A., Chetty, R., Jaravel, X., Petkova, N., & Van Reenen, J. (December 2017). *Who becomes an inventor in America? The importance of exposure to Innovation*. DOI: 10.3386/w24062.

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INVENTION PLAYGROUND MODULE OVERVIEW



Pod Pals Cruise the Galaxy™

Intergalactic exploration and fuzzy, funny creatures called Pod Pals challenge children to explore concepts, such as gravity, and explore how to build super-tall, super-strong towers. Participants help the Pod Pals travel the galaxy by inventing the ultimate spaceship controls and then building and launching spaceships!



Shake, Rattle and Roll™

Explore the science of sound using vibrations and sound waves! Children play fun games utilizing specialized sound locators – their ears! Megaphones, instruments and sound catchers let children fine-tune their listening skills and memory, and discover that they can invent through play.



ZOOM: Where Innovation Begins™

Children explore STEM by putting on their career gear as they explore the depths of the ocean and zoom out to discover what it's like to be a chemist, a veterinarian, an architect and a rocket scientist. ZOOM is where innovative thinking begins.



Mystery Present™

Children use clues to help them uncover a secret Mystery Present through the properties of buoyancy, circuitry and the science of bubbles. Children receive postcards from New York to China and South America, encouraging them to build, tinker and discover in an effort to unlock the final mystery.