Camp Invention's IMPACT

Cultivating Entrepreneurship, Encouraging Interest in STEM, Stimulating Creativity and Building Problem-Solving Skills

Small Steps, Big Leaps

Research shows just ONE week of Camp Invention® results in statistically significant improvements in creativity, STEM interest and problem-solving skills. Further, repeat Camp Invention experiences show even larger gains.

Improved Performance

A third-party evaluation found that participation in Camp Invention leads to increased attendance, improved test scores and an increase in students' average GPA.ⁱⁱ

Long-Term Impacts

Longitudinal data shows that four years post Camp Invention, there is even stronger evidence of statistically significant growth in the areas of creativity, STEM interest and problem-solving skills.ⁱ

Creativity's Connection to Academic Achievement



Camp Invention participants demonstrate increases in several characteristics recognized as critical elements to creativity and creative problem solving — specifically fluency, flexibility and elaboration. Positive changes in elaboration may be positively related to improved academic achievement.

Teamwork Is an Essential Skill



Participants, parents and Instructors have noted improvement in collaboration and working as a team among participants at the end of Camp Invention.ⁱⁱⁱ

Inventors and Entrepreneurs Are Role Models



Parent and Instructor surveys show strong agreement that Camp Invention provides participants with the valuable perspective of a real-life inventor and entrepreneur by allowing participants to take apart objects and rebuild them into new inventions. iii



Instructors report more willingness to incorporate entrepreneurship concepts into future teaching. More specifically, Instructors indicate a strong likelihood of increased use of two strategies related to entrepreneurship after using them at Camp Invention:

1) creating an atmosphere of acceptance of people and ideas; and 2) fostering risk-taking.



Exposure influences not just whether α child grows up to become an inventor but also the type of inventions he or she produces.

If girls were exposed to female inventors during childhood at the same rate that boys are to male inventors, the gender gap in innovation would fall by half.^{iv}



Children who grow up in areas with more inventors and innovation are more likely to become inventors themselves.^{iv}

Camp Invention connects children across the country with the nation's greatest innovators!

The full study and executive summary for all research noted are available upon request.





Inspiring future innovators

- J. Falk, Camp Invention Evaluation Report. Institute for Learning Innovation (2018).
- Summit Education Initiative, National Inventors Hall of Fame Camp Invention Summer 2018 (2018).
- ChangeMaker Consulting LLC, Camp Invention Evaluation Executive Summary (2014).
- iv. A. Bell, R. Chetty, X. Jaravel, N. Petkova, and J. Van Reenen, Who Becomes an Inventor in America? The Importance of Exposure to Innovation. Opportunity Insights (2017).