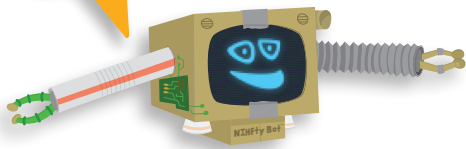


# THE CAMP INVENTION DAILY DAY 1



Camp Invention®

HI, I'M NIIFTY BOT™!  
WELCOME TO CAMP!



## WELCOME TO THE FIRST DAY OF CAMP INVENTION®

Each day, your child is entering an environment where their ideas matter and anything is possible! This is a safe, fun and creative space to discover and explore the incredible world of invention. Look closely throughout the week — we're sure you'll see your child's ideas turning into reality!

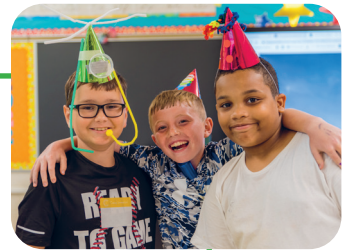
## 2023 CAMP INVENTION EXPERIENCES

In **Invention Celebration™**, children become event planners as they explore different aspects involved in creating celebrations. They sketch the ultimate party hat with a purpose, then investigate the science of circuitry to unlock an LED ball. Once their colorful light is glowing, campers prototype their innovative party hat.

Campers become entrepreneurs by creating the ultimate business in **Pop-Up Venture™**! They build models of their design and generate ideas for their shop. Then they develop a business plan, receive money from a lender and apply for a license. They hear stories from National Inventors Hall of Fame® Inductees and entrepreneurs, and they plan for their opening day, knowing that unexpected challenges might pop up.

During **MimicBot™**, children receive the challenge of turning look-alike robots into original, one-of-a-kind stuffies. They discover their robot has mimicking abilities and investigate the inner mechanics to find out what makes it move and groove. While exploring their robot, a Copy Cat who loves to steal ideas and claim them as his own reveals he has been lurking! Campers investigate patents as a way to thwart the Copy Cat.

In **Catching Air™**, children explore the components of their mini skateboards and some inventors who have made them possible! They head to the Skate Shop to pick up their own mini board and then personalize it. Inspired by skater slug Allie Oops, campers put their board to the test experimenting with balance, center of gravity and angles!



### CONNECTION QUESTIONS

1. What did you discover today that you didn't know before?
2. What was a challenge you faced today? How did you overcome it?
3. Which activities did you enjoy the most?

## OUR CAMP INVENTION FAMILY IS GOING ON A NEW ADVENTURE!

We're so glad you're part of the Camp Invention family! We are so excited to guide your young innovator through this experience as they dream big and unlock their potential by building the I Can Invent® Mindset.

We believe learning should be fun, and learning environments should be supportive. So here at camp, your child is free to explore, experiment and share their ideas as they team up with friends to take on open-ended challenges where there are no “right” or “wrong” answers.

Each day, your child will engage in experiences crafted in collaboration with National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees — amazing role models who inspire the inventor in us all. To support your child's innovative journey, at camp and beyond:

- Use “I wonder...” statements to spark their curiosity
- Encourage creative solutions that stretch their imagination
- Cheer them on as they build their confidence and persistence

Welcome to the family — we can't wait to see what your camper achieves!

**“I believe all children are inventors.”** — Michael J. Oister, CEO, National Inventors Hall of Fame

## SAFETY

Your child's safety is very important to us. When dropping off and picking up your child, you must accompany them into the \_\_\_\_\_ to sign them in and out each day.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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# THE CAMP INVENTION DAILY DAY 2



Camp Invention®

## HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAMP!

In **Invention Celebration™**, campers explore the efficiency of machines, assembly lines and working together. Then they sketch and prototype an invention that will help them during a celebration. It could be a robot waiter, a machine to take out the trash or an automatic door that helps guests inside — anything is possible!

In **Pop-Up Venture™**, campers explore ways to include environmentally conscious design in their pop-up shop! They contemplate the upfront costs versus the long-term impact of green space and continue building their pop-up shop, adding curb appeal to attract customers.

In **MimicBot™**, children transform their MimicBot into a fluffy stuffie and learn the Copy Cat is going to steal their fluffy stuffie for himself. To diversify their stuffie to evade the Copy Cat, campers turn to genetics. After discovering how nature codes for physical features in plants and animals, children translate DNA code to unlock access to building block materials and start to style their stuffie.

In **Catching Air™**, campers practice skate tricks as they explore the fun of physics through force, friction and more! They receive a finger shoe, then use their new kick to flip their board into a bowl. They make a DIY skateboarder and receive a Slug Rider inspired by Allie Oops!



## Making Connections

Throughout the week, campers are encouraged to investigate nature for inspiration as they design one-of-a-kind inventions.

This type of investigation can continue at home! Go on a walk with your child and encourage them to look for ideas that may inspire one of their inventions!

### CONNECTION QUESTIONS

1. What did you find challenging today? How did you handle it?
2. Which materials have you been using to create your inventions?
3. What materials do you like to use most?



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# YOUR CAMPER IS BUILDING THE I CAN INVENT MINDSET

As we have fun at camp, we're also building a powerful mindset that puts lessons from great inventors into action! Each Camp Invention® experience helps your child develop and strengthen the essential skills and traits that make up the I Can Invent® Mindset, preparing them to reach their full potential, now and in the future.



## MimicBot

Applying **design thinking**, we transformed our MimicBots into stuffies and turned to **STEM** to help pave the way. We dug deep into genetics to create diverse physical features for our stuffies and are exploring **intellectual property** to keep the Copy Cat from stealing our one-of-a-kind designs.

## Invention Celebration

We practiced **persistence** and built **confidence** through the creation of a unique musical instrument. Using **creative problem solving** and **collaboration**, we are working to design new party-themed inventions as we head toward the ultimate celebration!

## Pop-Up Venture

We explored **entrepreneurship** by developing our own pop-up business ideas. We used **design thinking** to bring our businesses to life, and we are growing our **confidence** as we prepare to promote our innovative pop-ups to customers.

## Catching Air

Through **design thinking** and **innovation**, we created riders for our mini skateboards. We used our **persistence** to avoid landing in slime pits and gained **confidence** in performing skate tricks!



# THE CAMP INVENTION DAILY DAY 3



At Camp Invention®, your child is given the freedom to think of innovative ideas, then inspired with confidence to bring those ideas to life. Throughout the week, they are informed of their rights as creators, including the protection of their unique inventions. They receive encouragement from world-changing inventors — National Inventors Hall of Fame® Inductees — to embrace creative thinking and problem solve their way to success!

## HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAMP!

In **Invention Celebration™**, campers set the mood and theme for their party as they explore color psychology. They work on elevating their event in the Party Design Zone, where they can design a photo prop, invitation and centerpiece, and they also experiment with colorful bubbles while creating a bubble art banner.

In **Pop-Up Venture™**, campers realize that as business owners, they should consider their customers' experience. They hear how inventions of National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees have made the process of packaging and delivering products safer and faster. To help with their pop-up event, children incorporate a model of a Kiva robot or create an invention of their own.

During **MimicBot™**, children continue to add features to make a one-of-a-kind stuffie. They dive deeper into mimicry by exploring some of nature's greatest mimics, including animals that use mimicry for protection. This inspiration helps as they work quickly to adapt their stuffie so it can be hidden from the Copy Cat.

In **Catching Air™**, children design their skate park! They create ramps, rails and other features that put their boards and tricks to the test. Campers create, test and recreate using DIY techniques to build a uniquely designed skate park that encourages fast-rolling fun!



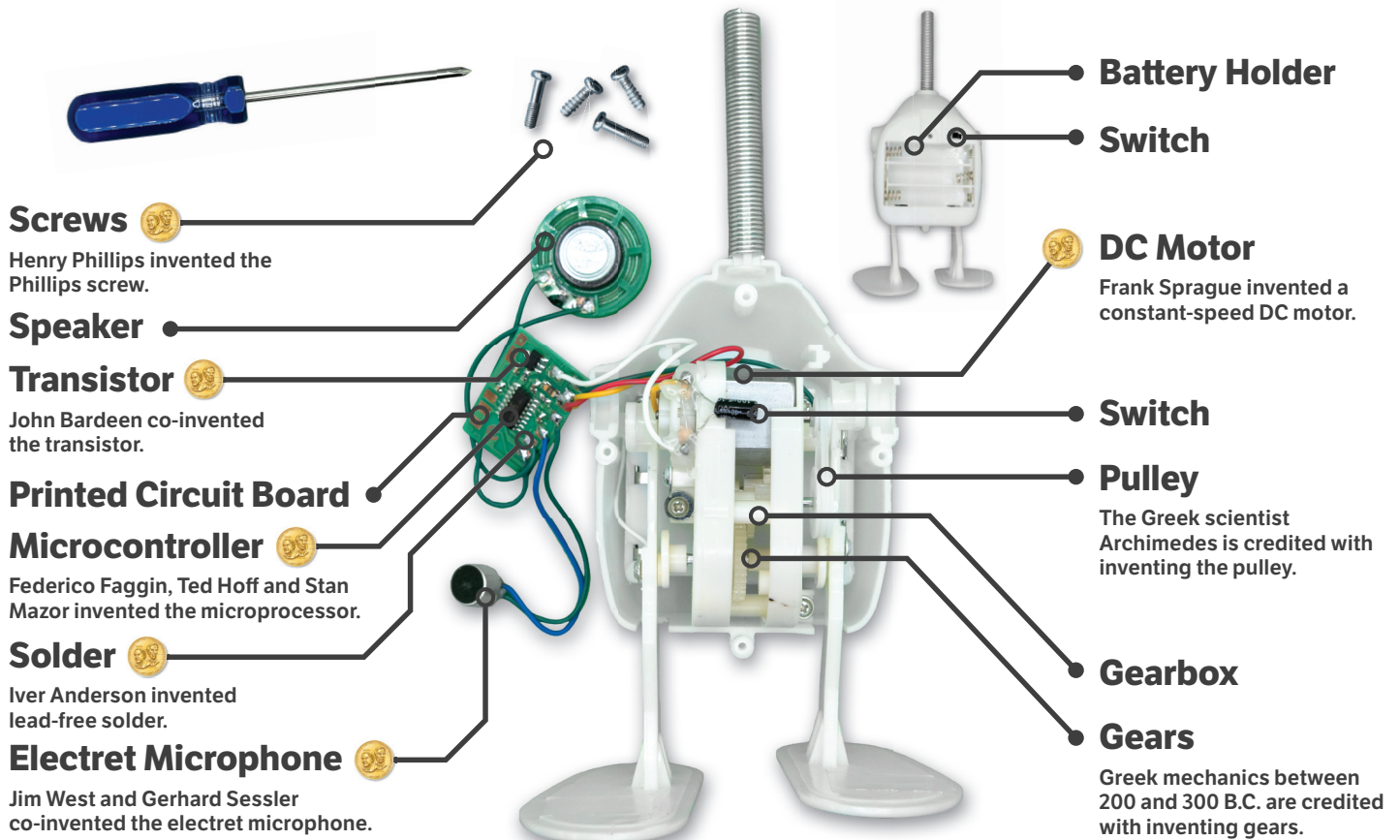
### CONNECTION QUESTIONS

1. What is fun about solving challenges?
2. What are you looking forward to tomorrow?
3. Which activities did you enjoy the most?

# DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S INSIDE A MIMICBOT?

Through a process known as reverse engineering, campers get to deconstruct their very own MimicBot – a walking, talking robot – to see what makes it move, groove and copy what they say!

Look for the gold medal icons that show which pieces were invented by National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees.



Once they discover what's inside, they put it back together and unleash their individuality. Each camper turns their imitating bot into a one-of-a-kind animatronic stuffie using inspiration from nature's mimics. They make it their own, protecting their big ideas with the power of patents!

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## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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# THE CAMP INVENTION DAILY DAY 4



## HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAMP!

In **Invention Celebration™**, campers build a musical instrument inspired by a kalimba (an African thumb piano) and investigate the science of sound. They add to their design to take their unique instrument to the next level, and then compose a song and learn how copyrights protect their intellectual property.

In **Pop-Up Venture™**, Opening Day is quickly approaching as children continue to prepare their pop-up shop. With a chance of inclement weather, they develop marketing strategies to reach potential customers. Campers create ways to keep customers comfortable and once the skies clear, they resume building, incorporating lighting and other ways to attract their customers.

In **MimicBot™**, with the Copy Cat still lurking about, children again turn to nature for inspiration to employ luring and trapping tactics. The Copy Cat receives the bait — an invitation to the Strut Your Stuffie Show! Campers are now ready to apply for a patent so they will be protected when they reveal their unique stuffie at the big show!

In **Catching Air™**, children discover lettering techniques they can use to create a sign featuring their skate park logo and further personalize their park. They continue building their skate park as they explore the geometry of angles and the science of simple machines to maximize the fun and possibilities with their mini skateboard!



### CONNECTION QUESTIONS

1. When did you feel most proud of yourself today?
2. Which team member do you like working with the most? Why?
3. What's the coolest thing you saw someone create today?

## DID YOU KNOW?

Your camper will bring home imaginative prototypes! A prototype is a model of an invention, and that means your child's creations represent the ideas they've worked hard to bring into the world. When you look closely, you're sure to find some impressive features.

Prototyping is an important part of the Camp Invention® experience because it's exactly what real-world inventors do. Our National Inventors Hall of Fame® Inductees have taught us that building invention prototypes allows them to bring their big ideas to life, just like our campers!

**Take a look at this prototype of an instrument, and you'll see what we mean!**

These jingle bells ring and rattle in time like a maraca!

This might look like a spring, but it's actually a peg that tunes the strings on the back of the instrument to keep it rocking.

These sticks can be plucked like a kalimba to make cool tones.

Think these are just decorations? No way! These microphone covers cut down on background noise and let our campers' voices shine.



## LET'S HEAR FROM SOME INDUCTEES!



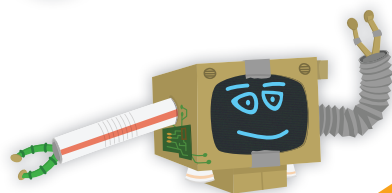
**2023 Inductee Marjorie Stewart Joyner** believed in the power of each person: "If I've set an example for other people, I want it to be that **you shouldn't be limited in what you try to do.**" She invented the permanent wave machine, advanced Black beauty culture and encouraged all people to achieve whatever they set their minds to do.



**2023 Inductee Rory Cooper** has advanced the health, mobility and social inclusion of people with disabilities and older adults. He knows how important it is to **"improvise, adapt and overcome."** With his contributions to wheelchair technology, he has demonstrated passion, persistence and the ability to help others through the power of innovation.



**2023 Inductee Lynn Conway** encourages future generations to engage with **"adventures with technology, inventors, designers, discoverers."** She co-invented Very Large-Scale Integration (VLSI) technology, which has transformed the microelectronics industry. She says that innovation and collaboration are important pieces of the invention process.



**Did you know? All our Inductees and their influential inventions are celebrated at the National Inventors Hall of Fame Museum, located inside the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Alexandria, Virginia. Check it out if you're in the area!**



# THE CAMP INVENTION DAILY DAY 5



Camp Invention®

It's hard to believe Camp Invention® is coming to an end, but we're so glad you and your child were part of the fun! We hope they had an incredible time inventing, creating and collaborating with friends! Even though today is the final day of camp, the skills learned and memories made are sure to last.

## TIME TO CELEBRATE A WEEK OF INVENTING

In **Invention Celebration™**, the long-awaited celebration is here! Campers put on their party hats and prepare to celebrate. They rotate between four fun-filled stations as they celebrate their accomplishments.

In **Pop-Up Venture™**, it is time to launch the ultimate event! Campers add finishing touches, receiving inspiration from National Inventors Hall of Fame® Inductee Peter Wurman as they create branding for their business. They take turns as owners and customers as they celebrate with a block party featuring everyone's pop-up shop.

In **MimicBot™**, children explore random pairings in genetics. When the Copy Cat arrives, they set their trap. Once captured, the Copy Cat sees the creativity of the stuffies and decides to start trusting his own ideas. Campers bring their stuffies to the catwalk and show off their patented designs to celebrate being one of a kind!

In **Catching Air™**, campers complete their skate parks and design a wheeled device for parks of the future. Then they test each other's skate parks with their mini skateboards and innovative, futuristic gear. For the grand finale, they kickflip their mini skateboard into the Big Bowl!



## Stay In Touch!

We're always sharing the latest STEM-based discoveries, activities and Camp Invention photos on our social channels, so be sure to follow us today!



[facebook.com/  
CampInvention](https://facebook.com/CampInvention)



[invent.org/blog](https://invent.org/blog)



[youtube.com/National  
Inventors HallofFame\\_NIHF](https://youtube.com/NationalInventorsHallofFame_NIHF)



[@CampInvention](https://twitter.com/CampInvention)

## CONNECTION QUESTIONS

1. What was the most exciting activity at Camp Invention?
2. What do you hope to do at Camp Invention next year?
3. How can you keep the Camp Invention fun going?



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## Dearest Future Inventor,

Yes, you. Do you know how smart you are? Very smart. I can feel the wheels of curiosity spinning in your mind. I can see the sparkle in your eyes as you discover new things. I can hear the wonder in your questions. Every question. I still ask questions, too.

Promise me that you will give science a try. It is OK if you approach it with hesitancy. Promise me that you will not quit. Promise me that you will never lose your curiosity. Promise me that you will learn as slow as you can or as fast as you can. Speak your future into existence by proudly saying your name after the words “future inventor.” You are going to invent the most amazing things — I just know it! I cannot wait to use your marvelous inventions one day!

**Stay curious,  
Inventor Arlyne Simon**



## UNTIL NEXT TIME!

We hope you feel empowered to help your child keep using the skills they developed this week. As you encourage creative problem solving, collaboration and innovation at home, you can find inspiration from Arlyne Simon. An exceptional role model, Simon participated in our Collegiate Inventors Competition® and went on to become a biomedical engineer, patented inventor and published author.

## KEEP CREATING AT HOME!

You're now a part of the Camp Invention family, where the fun and learning never stop! Although your week of camp has come to an end, we want to help your young inventor keep thinking big. Check out our blog at [invent.org/blog](https://invent.org/blog) to discover at-home, hands-on STEM activities perfect for curious kids and growing minds.



SCAN TO VISIT OUR BLOG

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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## NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR