

# PROVEN BENEFITS OF CAMP INVENTION

Two decades ago, Camp Invention® began formally measuring its impact. During this time, multiple independent evaluations have confirmed both the short- and long-term benefits of our Camp Invention program.

## EDUCATOR CHALLENGE

## CAMP INVENTION SOLUTION

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Children need equitable opportunities to become successful.

- ✓ Exposure to inventors and invention during childhood can increase the likelihood that a child will become an innovator. The Camp Invention program provides this exposure through our National Inventors Hall of Fame® (NIHF) Inductee integration.<sup>1</sup>
- ✓ Patent holders are successful, earning four times the average American household income. All of the inventors introduced at Camp Invention are patent holders.<sup>1</sup>
- ✓ If girls were exposed to female inventors at the same rate as boys are to male inventors, the gender gap in innovation would shrink by half. NIHF Inductees make up a diverse group of inventors who serve as career role models.<sup>1</sup>

### TEAMWORK

Children need more opportunities to learn how to collaborate — an essential skill for the 21st century.

- ✓ Students have shown improvement in their ability to collaborate after participating in Camp Invention.<sup>2</sup>

### TEACHER ENGAGEMENT

Educators are looking for greater support in teaching children the skills necessary to become innovative.

- ✓ Camp Invention enables teachers to incorporate more entrepreneurial concepts into their teaching.<sup>2</sup>
- ✓ After leading Camp Invention, Instructors are more likely to foster risk-taking and create an atmosphere of acceptance of people and ideas.<sup>2</sup>
- ✓ Our program's influence on Instructors' teaching strategies can make a positive impact on students beyond those participating in Camp Invention.<sup>2</sup>

### CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING

Children need hands-on opportunities to be creative and build problem-solving skills, so they are prepared to take on the challenges of the future.

- ✓ Just one week of Camp Invention results in significant short-term and long-term improvements in creativity, STEM interest, collaboration and problem solving.<sup>3</sup>
- ✓ Students with multiple Camp Invention experiences show higher gains in creativity, STEM interest and problem solving than those with limited or no previous experience.<sup>3</sup>
- ✓ Over the long term, from one to four years after Camp Invention, there is even stronger evidence of growth in creativity, STEM interest and problem solving.<sup>3</sup>

### INCREASED ATTENDANCE AND TEST SCORES

Children need experiences that support school performance, including their attendance and test scores.

- ✓ Participating in Camp Invention during the summer has increased students' performance and engagement the following school year.<sup>4</sup>
- ✓ Camp Invention contributes to better attendance, GPA and test scores — three key steps to ensuring a child takes a college path.<sup>4</sup>
- ✓ Following one recent Camp Invention program, 56% of students with high-risk absence rates demonstrated excellent attendance, and students' average and median standardized test scores rose in reading and math.<sup>4</sup>

1 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). [https://opportunityinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/patents\\_paper.pdf](https://opportunityinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/patents_paper.pdf)

2 ChangeMaker Consulting LLC, Camp Invention Evaluation Executive Summary (2014). [https://www.invent.org/sites/default/files/2021-02/CI%20Evaluation%20Summary\\_MKT-085.pdf](https://www.invent.org/sites/default/files/2021-02/CI%20Evaluation%20Summary_MKT-085.pdf)

3 J. Falk, Camp Invention Evaluation Report. Institute for Learning Innovation (2018). [https://www.invent.org/sites/default/files/2021-02/ILI\\_Evaluation\\_Summary\\_Camp\\_Invention\\_May2018.pdf](https://www.invent.org/sites/default/files/2021-02/ILI_Evaluation_Summary_Camp_Invention_May2018.pdf)

4 Summit Education Initiative, National Inventors Hall of Fame Camp Invention Summer 2018 (December 2018). [https://www.invent.org/sites/default/files/2021-02/NIHF\\_2018\\_Summer\\_Program\\_Evaluation.pdf](https://www.invent.org/sites/default/files/2021-02/NIHF_2018_Summer_Program_Evaluation.pdf)

