

DESTINATION READING COURSE 3


UNIT 04: Cool Kid Inventions

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Weather Today:
Sunny High 86 Low 68

TODAY

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A Destination Paper 11



COOL kid inventions

Warming Up

It was the winter of 1873. Farmington, Maine was freezing cold. Young Chester Greenwood was itching to go skating, but outside, the wind was too cold for his ears! He tried wrapping his scarf around his head. It was uncomfortable and itchy. Then a better idea popped into his head. Using a piece of soft wire, he made two oval loops. His grandmother helped him sew pieces of beaver fur on the outside of the loops. Then they added black velvet on the inside.

Cont: page 12

▶ As you read, test your skill with multiple meaning words.

▶ If you could invent something, what would it be?

▶ Supporting details give you information about the main idea. I know that Chester used soft wire to create his invention. Can you find any other important details about his invention in the first paragraph? Remember, you can use a sticky note to track them.

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She stitched the loops to Chester’s cap, and they warmed his ears while he skated. Chester called the invention the Ear Protector. They quickly became a big hit with his neighbors and community.

Over the years, Chester improved his design. He added a flat spring for the headband. Now the flaps would stay in place! His invention soon became known as the earmuff. Chester patented it in 1877. By 1936 his factory produced 400,000 earmuffs a year!

Trouble In The Dark

When Becky Schroeder was 10 years old, she liked to do her homework in the car. Sometimes it was too dark to see the paper. During the next weeks, Becky thought long and hard about this problem. She knew there had to be something she could do! She remembered some of her toys that could glow in the dark. She found out that phosphorescent substances glow after they have been in the light.

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The word “spring” has more than one meaning. Read the words before and after “spring” to get the right meaning.



Remember to stop or pause after reading so that you can summarize what you’ve learned before moving on. After I read each paragraph, I like to summarize on sticky notes. I know this section is about earmuffs. What else is it about?

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The next day Becky’s dad brought her to the hardware store to buy some phosphorescent paint. She painted a clipboard and placed it beneath some paper. The clipboard gave off enough light to shine through the paper. Becky could finally write in the dark!

Becky became the youngest female to receive a U.S. patent. Many professionals bought her Glo-Sheets. They could be used in so many ways! Photographers could use them in their darkrooms.



Doctors could read a patient’s chart at night. Her invention was created to help her with homework. In the end, it helped a lot more people. Becky and her father created a company selling Glo-Sheets. Becky, of course, was president!

Cont: page 14



Find the word in this section that has more than one meaning. Use context clues to figure out the correct meaning.



Sometimes, when the letters “e” and “a” stand next to each other in a word they make the long “e” sound. Can you find a word in this section that makes the long “e” sound this way?



Why don’t you take a minute to summarize what you’ve learned from this paragraph?

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Nothing But Net

Many of the greatest inventions are surprisingly simple, like Chris Haas's Hands-On Basketball. Nine-year-old Chris realized that many kids couldn't shoot a basketball because they were holding it the wrong way. Chris spotted an easy solution. He painted the correct hand placement on a basketball. He even designed the basketball for both left- and right-handed shooters.

Chris's teachers praised the idea and encouraged him to patent his invention. The Hands-On Basketball captured the interest of an Atlanta manufacturer. They believed it displayed real business potential. Now the Hands-On Basketball is sold internationally.

The key to invention is to look at something in a different way. We have kids to thank for many cool inventions. Never be afraid to be creative!



When the vowel “a” teams with “y” they make the sound of a long “a.” Can you find a word in this section that makes the long “a” sound this way?



Can you find the sentence that tells you the main idea of the section called Nothing but Net?



When the letters “a” and “l” stand next to each other in a word they usually make a long “a” sound. Can you find a word in this section that makes the long “a” sound this way?