



Activity Sheet 2: Coming up with ideas

An idea can come from anywhere! But sometimes the brain can use a little help. Here are three creative techniques you might like to try.

1. Think of two random objects (e.g. umbrella and rake; pencil and iron). How are they **different**? How are they **similar**? Write a list of **what they have in common**.
2. Think of an existing invention (e.g. smart phone, television). **How might it change** in the future? **Why** do you think that?
3. Imagine if we didn't have a common object (e.g. drinking glass, fork, school bag). **What could we do or use instead?**

Think of an object you use regularly (e.g. hairbrush, tablet, pencil case). The following questions might help you think creatively and come up with ideas for your invention:

My object is

How could you **improve** it? What would you **change**? Why? Why would this be an improvement?

How could you use it in a **different way** or for a **different purpose**? Why might you do this?

How could you **modify** the way it looks? Why might you do this?

Which part could you **remove** to make it better? Why would this make it better?

Which part could you **add** to make it better? Why would this make it better?

Which parts could you **rearrange**? What effect would this have? Why?

Could you **join** it to something else to make a new product? Why would you do this?

What **completely new** things could you come up with?

What would be the advantages of your invention? What might be the disadvantages?
What would you call it? Why?