**Inventive Thinking and Creativity for LDMS Tech-Ed**

**Activity Form - Invention Idea Survey**

By [Mary Bellis](http://inventors.about.com/bio/Mary-Bellis-496.htm), About.com Guide

One of the best ways to **collect ideas for developing an innovation or invention** is to **take a survey**. Make sure to survey a variety of people of all different ages and occupations like friends, parents, teachers and members of our community about problems around them. The more people you talk to, the more ideas you will get. You are looking for answers that can be solved with technology, inventions or innovations/improvements, NOT personality conflicts.

**The following list of questions may help you:**

What BIG problem(s) would you like to see solved?

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

What task or chore would you like to see made easier?

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

What object, tool, or appliance doesn't work as well as you would like it to?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What new use could you find with something you already have? What is it and what alternative use could you find for it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you could invent something to make life easier, something that would make someone's life safer, more fun, or more interesting…What would you invent?

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Pg. \_\_\_\_\_**

***What really bugs you about….?***

**What is the most annoying problem** you find…

at home?

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

…at work? (not a cranky boss or annoying co-worker)

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

…on the road or while traveling? (not pesky drivers)

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

…at the supermarket?

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

…at the bank?

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

…at the shopping center, mall or lumber yard?

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

…at school? (not teachers you dislike)

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------