

LAKELAND INVENT IDAHO

Step 4:

This is the step where inventors put their plans in action. Prototypes can be created on a 3D printer or in garages and basements using everyday materials, such as cardboard and Legos. Often, inventors wander around hardware stores to inspire their material choices. Prototypes are not usually perfect on the first build, and that gives the inventor the opportunity to make improvements. Remember, you can not spend more the \$25 new money, so get creative, recycle and reuse!

What can you do at home to help?

Explore how other machines and toys work with your child: Taking apart old machines and toys is a great way to find out how to make something work! This is a great time to go through old resources you have at home and allow your child to rip it apart, check out how it worked, and reuse any parts they may need!

Visit the local hardware shop: Taking your child on a trip to the hardware store to explore the nuts and bolts and different materials gives them inspiration on how to make things work. Also, have them take a moment to share their idea with workers at the store and ask for materials suggestions. Even if something is too expensive, they can take notes about what they would use in a real working model.

Build, Build, BUILD along side your child: No invention comes to life without a team! We encourage you to build alongside your child, teach them to use tools necessary and

have fun redesigning the product as you go! Take pictures of your child working on the prototype (no faces included) to share in their journal.

TEST, TEST, TEST

Don't forget to test the prototype, make adjustments and rebuild. Keep track of what changes you make and don't get rid of old prototypes!

