



What if every student learned to think like an inventor?

Invention Education opens minds and possibilities.

Of course, not every student will become an inventor. But they can learn to think like one. Because when students learn to think like inventors, they understand what's possible for improving their lives and the world around them. And they learn how to make both happen.

Invention Education is a powerful educational approach for K-12 students that teaches the unique ways inventors find and solve problems. It includes an emphasis on problem identification that gives students agency to choose problems that are meaningful to them. Students engage with their community to understand problems from diverse perspectives and gain first-hand experience in the value of empathy and inclusivity. They apply what they've learned in STEM and Computer Science to the real-world problems they've chosen. The process activates deeper engagement, increases confidence, and develops empathy.

The result is a transformative learning experience that opens students' minds and develops the skills they'll need to turn today's possibilities into tomorrow's realities.

Help prepare students for a future of rapid change.

A Framework for Success. A Network for Growth

Download the Invention Education framework, a comprehensive set of principles for Invention Education that can support its growth within formal and informal learning environments from K-12 through higher education. It's available free at inventioneducation.org

Learn more about the InventEd Network, a diverse group of leaders from education, government, policy, industry and more, collaborating to bring Invention Education to more students.

The Network helps those who want to grow and strengthen Invention Education find and connect with others in the field, share resources, events and best practices for implementation.

Visit. inventioneducation.org



Invention Education

What if every student was prepared for a future yet to be invented?

inventEd

Powered by The Lemelson Foundation

inventEd

Powered by The Lemelson Foundation



What if educators had a more powerful way to inspire all students to engage more deeply in their own learning?

When educators add the unique, real-world application of invention it activates a deeper, more personal level of interest and engagement for students of all backgrounds.

Invention Education helps educators create fun, more inclusive learning environments that engage their students. Curricula is designed to be flexible; educators can integrate it into their existing approaches across a range of formal and informal educational settings. Invention Education doesn't replace what educators are doing - it enhances existing curricula and lesson plans, drawing upon multiple disciplines including STEM, computer science, entrepreneurship, Maker, and Project Based Learning.

Invention Education supports Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

The Power of Invention

Our best engine for economic growth and better lives is being underutilized.

Throughout history, invention has always been a catalyst for better health, food, safety, economic opportunity, jobs, and more. Today's youth face a future of rapid change and challenges that are more urgent and complex than ever before. The UN Sustainable Development Goals, the ongoing talent shortage in STEM, and the systemic social and economic inequities in our society, all make it clear. We need more invention and we need it more than ever.

Yet too few young people have the opportunity to discover their potential to identify and solve problems – to see themselves as inventors. Today's patent holders and leading technology innovators are 90% male and nearly 95% Asian or white.

Leadership roles in STEM fields and technology companies are chronically lacking in diversity.

What's more, young people experience the challenges in their communities first-hand. But despite their direct knowledge and personal interest, they don't recognize their own potential to solve those challenges. A valuable source of effective solutions is being lost.

There is an urgent need to build a more robust, more diverse pipeline of future problem solvers and inventors. Invention Education can help create that pipeline.

"It's where it all comes together. Students see the connection between what they're learning and how it applies in the real world. Invention leads them to apply STEM knowledge, and then it hits them - this is why I need to understand this."

"Having an inventors mindset means practicing the skillset employers are demanding."



What if young people were prepared to create new markets, new industries, and meet the demands of jobs that don't yet exist?

"Market economies are creations, not something we just find. Markets have to be created." – Ronald Coase: Nobel Laureate

Too many of our youth enter the marketplace unprepared for the challenges they'll face. Invention Education develops the real-world, working knowledge of STEM and computer science they need to compete for the jobs of tomorrow. Invention Education also develops the "soft" skills that employers increasingly demand, including the ability to see and solve problems in new ways, to develop a more inclusive organization, and to lead that organization with genuine empathy.

But Invention Education does more than prepare someone to fill a job; it develops the unique perspectives, abilities, and skills needed to create new economies, new industries, and the good, well-paying jobs they generate.