

Selections: Izzy The Inventor
by Helen Douglas

YOUNG LEARNERS TEACHER'S NOTES

Activities author: Adrian Tennant
Level: Movers+
Recommended age: Grade 3, primary (8+)
Time needed: Indicated for each activity
Type of English: American
Note: These activities can be done one after the other, or can be done separately, depending on how much time you want to spend during the lesson and on the focus of your lesson.

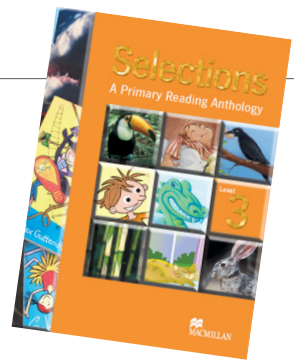
Warm-up

Write up the title, *Izzy the Inventor*, on the board. Ask the students if they know what an *inventor* is. Write up *invention* and elicit its meaning. Show the students some simple classroom objects, such as a pencil sharpener, scissors, a mobile phone, a computer. Point out to the students that all of these machines are *inventions*. Ask the students to think of some useful inventions and write up their ideas on the board.

Activity 1 (5-10 minutes)

- Hand out the worksheet to the children.
- Look at the pictures around the wordsearch of machines that you will usually find in the kitchen.
- Show the children the example, *coffee maker*. Elicit the words for the other machines.
- The children should write the words under the pictures.
- Ask the children to try to find the words in the wordsearch.
- Encourage the children to work with a partner.
- Monitor and help where necessary.
- Finally, check the answers with the class.

R	E	F	R	I	G	E	R	A	T	O	R
C	G	Y	P	O	D	S	A	R	B	W	U
C	O	F	F	E	E	M	A	K	E	R	O
M	V	O	N	S	X	A	U	L	O	Z	A
I	C	B	K	Y	H	O	M	K	D	E	Q
C	O	L	P	E	Y	P	N	T	A	S	T
R	E	E	B	J	R	A	J	O	F	K	P
O	I	N	S	B	H	U	T	A	R	U	O
W	I	D	I	S	H	W	A	S	H	E	R
A	R	E	S	A	C	O	F	T	L	U	Y
V	U	R	G	Y	U	C	W	E	O	P	R
E	O	D	F	G	S	E	T	R	A	O	Y



Activity 2 (5 minutes)

- Ask the children to listen to (or read) the story and see which of the items from the wordsearch (Activity 1) are mentioned.

Key: dishwasher

Activity 3 (10-15 minutes)

Listening

- Tell the children you will play the recording again. However, you will pause it in certain places and ask a question so the children should listen carefully.
- Play the recording and pause after, "Where is it dear!" asked her dad nervously." Now ask Question 1 (below). Encourage the children to look at the pictures to help them find the answers.
- Repeat the procedure, stopping in the following places:
 - Q2: "Her parents looked out from under the table."
 - Q3: "It broke all my best china," said her mom."
 - Q4: "All the paint came off," said her dad."
 - Q5/Q6: "She pressed some more buttons and added flour, eggs and water to the machine."
 - Q7: "Her face was black."
 - Q8: "... and two very burnt sausages sticking out of it."
 - Q9 "No!" both her parents shouted together."
- Check the answers as you go along. Some of the questions (1, 2, 3 and 9) ask children for their interpretation of the story. The answers given below are suggested answers. If children come up with an alternative answer that seems good, then accept it.

Questions:

- Why was Izzy's dad nervous when Izzy said, "I invented a breakfast-making machine!"?
- Why were Izzy's mom and dad hiding under the table?
- Was the dishwashing machine a success? Why (not)?
- What damage did the car washing machine do?
- What did Izzy's mom and dad want for breakfast?



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Q6. What did Izzy offer her mom and dad for breakfast?

Q7. Why was Izzy's face black?

Q8. What did Izzy's breakfast machine make?

Q9. Do you think her parents are happy with her new idea? How do you know?

Reading / writing

You could extend and reinforce the whole-class Activity 3 by making copies of the questions for the children. Ask them to write their own answers to the questions in their notebooks.

Key:

1. *Probably because she's invented things before but they didn't work properly.*
2. *Because they were worried / frightened / nervous.*
3. *No, because it broke all the dishes.*
4. *It took all the paint off the car.*
5. *Mom – fruit; Dad – cereal*
6. *Mom – pancakes; Dad – sausage and eggs*
7. *Because the machine blew up.*
8. *A strange mixture with all the ingredients she had put into the machine.*
9. *No, because they both shouted, 'No!'*

Activity 4 (10-15 minutes)

1. Ask the children to think of something they would like to invent.
2. Next, ask them to draw a picture of it. They can label it and write a short description if they want.
3. Monitor and just check the children are happily drawing.
4. Finally, children can display their drawings on the wall and then walk around looking at the other designs / inventions.

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Izzy The Inventor

Written by Helen Douglas

Illustrated by Ilene Richard

One morning, Izzy came down to breakfast with a big smile on her face. Her mom was making coffee and her dad was reading the paper at the table.

'I have good news,' said Izzy happily. 'I invented a breakfast-making machine!'

Izzy's mom and dad looked at her. They did not look happy.

'Where is it, dear?' asked her dad nervously.

'It's right here,' said Izzy pulling a huge machine into the kitchen. Izzy's mom and dad hid under the table. The machine made loud noises as it moved and smoke came out of it in two or three places.

'Isn't it wonderful?' said Izzy. 'This will save you a lot of work every morning, Mom.' She looked around, puzzled. 'Mom? Dad?'



Her parents looked out from under the table.

'How do you know it works?' asked her dad.

'Of course it works,' said Izzy.

'You said that about the dishwashing machine you invented. It broke all my best china,' said her mom.

'You said that about the car washing machine too. All the paint came off,' said her dad.

'This one works,' said Izzy. 'Now, what would you like for breakfast, Dad?'

'Cereal,' said her dad quickly.

'You can have sausage and eggs,' said Izzy.

Izzy pushed some buttons on the machine. She fed it some sausages and some eggs. There were some loud, very strange noises from deep inside the machine, then silence.

'Hmm,' said Izzy. Then she pressed some more buttons. The machine went BANG! Izzy's mom jumped.

'What would you like, Mom?' Izzy asked brightly.

'Umm, I'll just have fruit, thank you, darling,' her mom said.

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'You can have pancakes. You love pancakes,' said Izzy. She pressed some more buttons and added flour, eggs and water to the machine.

There was a strange noise as the machine mixed, whisked, fried and stirred. It began to shake. Izzy's mom and dad put their heads back under the table.

There was a huge BANG and then a cloud of green smoke filled the kitchen. The machine was quiet and still.

'Oh no! I think it's broken,' Izzy said sadly.

Her parents came out from under the table. 'Really?' they said together.

Izzy's hair had clouds of smoke coming out of it and one of her eyebrows was gone. Her face was black.

'But look! It did work,' she said. 'It made your breakfast.'

The smoke cleared a little and there on the table was a large plate. On the plate was a big round ball of pancake with a perfect fried egg on top. When they looked closer they saw bits of broken eggshell in the pancake ball and two very burnt sausages sticking out of it.

'Oh!' said Izzy sadly. 'It didn't work at all.'



'Never mind, darling,' said her dad. 'Your next machine will be OK.'

'Maybe you should start with something easier,' said her mom.

'Something that doesn't explode!'

'Well, I have an idea for a machine that makes bubble gum,' said Izzy.

'NO!' both her parents shouted together.



Published by arrangement with Macmillan Publishers S.A. de C.V.

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Before listening / reading

Activity 1

Write the words under the pictures. Then circle the words in the wordsearch.



t



m



d



c



c



r

R	E	F	R	I	G	E	R	A	T	O	R
C	G	Y	P	O	D	S	A	R	B	W	U
C	O	F	F	E	E	M	A	K	E	R	O
M	V	O	N	S	X	A	U	L	O	Z	A
I	C	B	K	Y	H	O	M	K	D	E	Q
C	O	L	P	E	Y	P	N	T	A	S	T
R	E	E	B	J	R	A	J	O	F	K	P
O	I	N	S	B	H	U	T	A	R	U	O
W	I	D	I	S	H	W	A	S	H	E	R
A	R	E	S	A	C	O	F	T	L	U	Y
V	U	R	G	Y	U	C	W	E	O	P	R
E	O	D	F	G	S	E	T	R	A	O	Y



b

Listen and read

Activity 2

Listen to (or read) the story. Which of the items from the wordsearch was mentioned?

After you listen or read

Activity 4

Think of something you want to invent. What is it? Draw a picture of your invention.