



## The Next Great Invention

*This is a fun activity to test your family's creativity!*

You will need several large pieces of paper and markers to complete this activity.

Begin by brainstorming a list of things that annoy or frustrate you because they do not work well. For example, maybe you find can openers do not work well or shoelaces always come untied. Think about as many annoyances as possible. Allow everyone to record his or her ideas on the paper.

Next, give each person paper and markers. Randomly assign each person two annoyances listed on the paper. Now challenge each person to design an invention to improve the product. Encourage creativity and functionality.

Share your inventions. If possible, try to create the actual invention. For example, if you developed a gadget to keep shoelaces from coming undone, build it! Or, if you found a way to keep plants from drying out, test your idea.

End the evening by watching the movie *Flash of Genius*.