

# Dragons' Den

**INDUSTRIAL  
REVOLUTION**

# Dragons' Den Activity: suggestions

## Set up: 1 lesson

Show one or two pitch examples of the BBC TV show Dragons' Den.

There are lots of these available on YouTube. Good example : [Here](#)

## Explain the broad task / activity.

Assign roles of Dragons and Inventor teams.

5-6 Dragons seems to work well but you can adjust to suit.

You may wish to blind pick roles ... see supporting resources.

Organise the 'Inventor Teams' 1-4 per invention? then assign or blind pick inventions.

You may wish to allow them to choose another Industrial Revolution era invention of their own.

There is a blank inventor card for this option.

## Preparation: 2 lessons

Allow Inventors and Dragons time to research, prepare their pitches and other tasks.

## The Activity: 1-2 lessons

The Dragons introduce themselves ... their name and areas of knowledge and expertise.

The first Inventor Team delivers their pitch. (Choose running order by inventor birth date)

Take questions from the 1. "Expert Dragons" 2. Remaining Dragons.

Then allow any 'Challenge Card' plays ... see supporting resources.

You may wish to give each Inventor Team 1 x Challenge Card to 'attack' another invention.

Dragons then state if they are interested in investing or not.

Round 1 offer ... interested Dragons make their initial offer.

Round 2 offer = ONE chance to make a revised offer.

Inventors allowed to decide which offer or offers they wish to take if any.

Repeat ...

Once all team have pitched, review scoring and get feedback on the activity.



# Criteria and Scoring ( Inventors )

Invention:								
1	The Initial Pitch							Creative, interesting, persuasive?
2	Question Response				A good understanding of the invention / inventor?			
3	Inventor Costume			Get creative				
4	Model / Demo / Prototype?			A creative demonstration of the invention				
5	Teamwork / Effort					All team members involved?		
6	Other			Any bonus points or suggestions from the Dragons?				
7	Good deal / choice to decline?				Great deal got or smart decision to decline?			
	Total		<b>25</b>					

Invention:								
1	The Initial Pitch							Creative, interesting, persuasive?
2	Question Response				A good understanding of the invention / inventor?			
3	Inventor Costume			Get creative				
4	Model / Demo / Prototype?			A creative demonstration of the invention				
5	Teamwork / Effort					All team members involved?		
6	Other			Any bonus points or suggestions from the Dragons?				
7	Good deal / choice to decline?				Great deal got or smart decision to decline?			
	Total		<b>25</b>					

# Criteria and Scoring ( Dragons )

<b>Dragon Name:</b>									
1	Short Introduction			A very short instruction and explain your area of expertise					
2	Quality of Questioning					Well researched and thoughtful questions			
3	Dragon Costume					Get creative			
4	Scariness or Role					Feel like being mean? Or kind?			
5	Number of Investments					But it all?			
6	Quality of Investments					Did you negotiate a good deal?			
7	Other?					Voted as best Dragon?			
	Total		<b>21</b>						

<b>Dragon Name:</b>									
1	Short Introduction			A very short instruction and explain your area of expertise					
2	Quality of Questioning					Well researched and thoughtful questions			
3	Dragon Costume					Get creative			
4	Scariness or Role					Feel like being mean? Or kind?			
5	Number of Investments					But it all?			
6	Quality of Investments					Did you negotiate a good deal?			
7	Other?					Voted as best Dragon?			
	Total		<b>21</b>						

# Enter the Dragons: suggested tasks

Each Dragon will be given 10 x £20 000 gold coins totalling £200,000 to invest in any of the inventions pitched to you. Your aim is to get the highest percentage of any of the businesses you are interested in for the **least** amount of money.

## Group Task

Look at the scoring criteria for Inventors AND Dragons. Do you have any other suggestions for scoring or ideas to improve the activity in general?

- 1: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3: \_\_\_\_\_

## Group / Individual Task

Check with Inventor Teams and make a list of all the inventions + inventor names taking part. Make sure each Inventor Team has AT LEAST one 'Expert Dragon' assigned to them. Each Dragon then needs to research about this assigned target invention/s. Prepare 'interesting / probing' questions for your target invention to ask during the activity.

## Individual Task

Consider wearing a prop, jacket etc. for the activity. Create a role for you as a Dragon?  
Write and practise your short introduction

## Group Task

Cut out the money !



# Dragon Dosh: 1 Coin = £20 000 ( Laminate + Cut )



# Cut and 'blind pick' roles option.



# Challenge Cards: optional

Give ONE to each Inventor team. They can use this to question / challenge / criticise the worth of ONE of the other inventions.



# Joseph Niepce

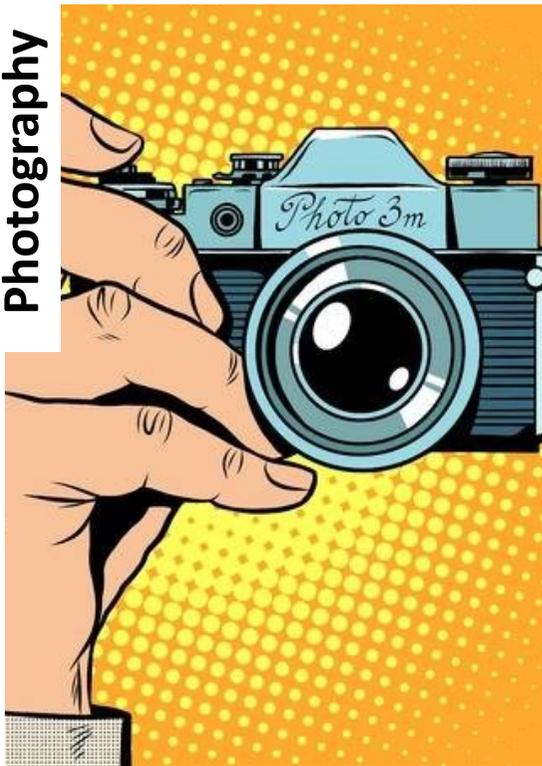
Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?



Photography



## About your invention ... (create a cool company name)

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

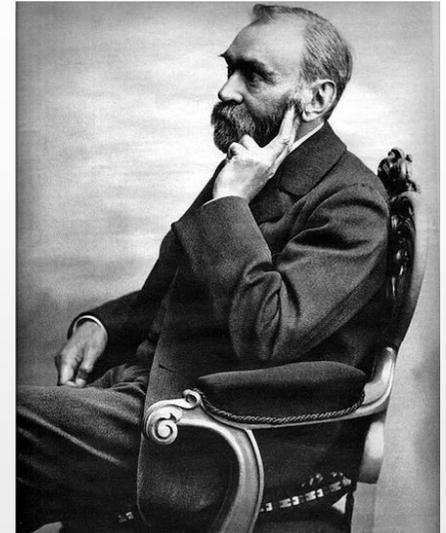
We are prepared to sell  % of the business for £  ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

# Alfred Nobel

Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?



## About your invention .. ( create a cool company name )

Dynamite



What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

We are prepared to sell  % of the business for £  ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

# Samuel Morse

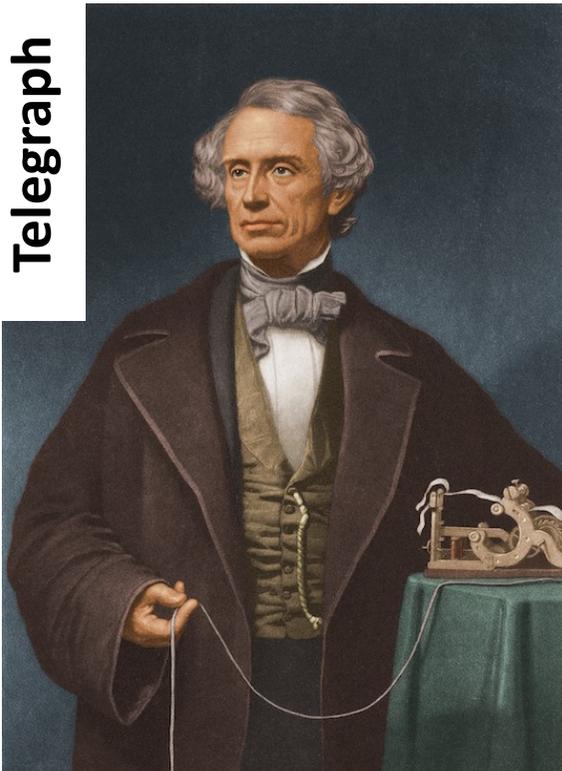
Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?



Telegraph



## About your invention ... (create a cool company name)

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

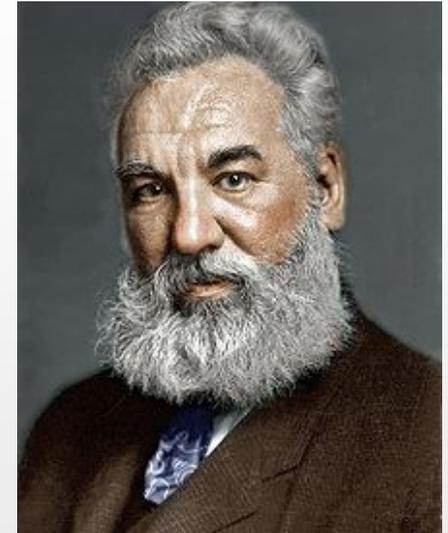
Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

We are prepared to sell  % of the business for £  ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

# Alexander Graham Bell



Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?

Telephone



## About your invention ... ( create a cool company name)

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

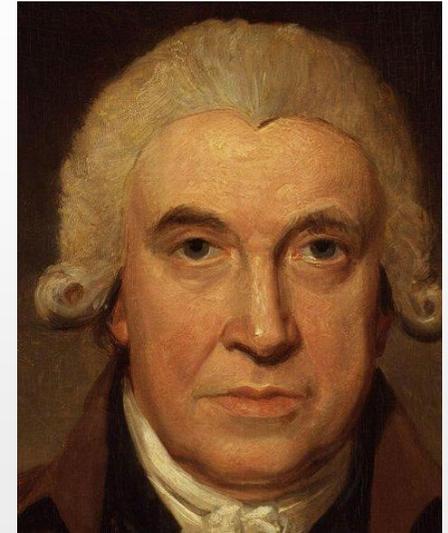
Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

We are prepared to sell  % of the business for £  ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

# Thomas Newcomen



Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?

Improved Steam Engine



## About your invention ... ( create a cool company name)

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

We are prepared to sell \_\_\_\_\_ % of the business for £ \_\_\_\_\_ ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

# Joseph Aspdin

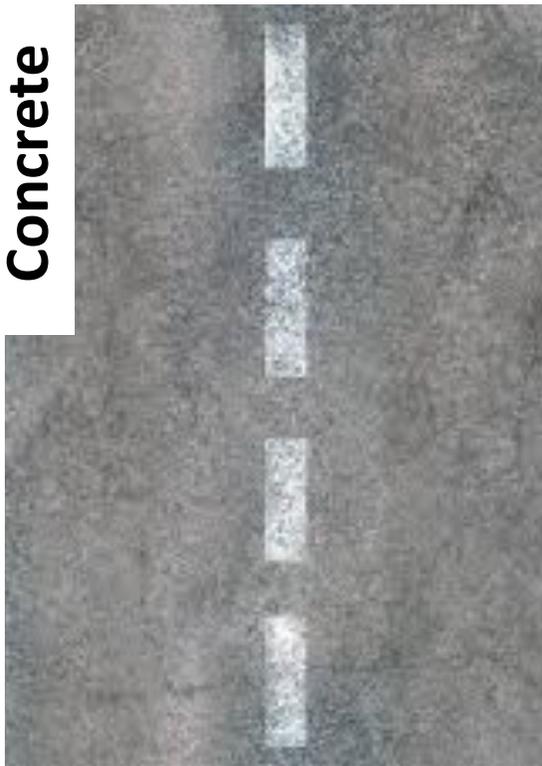
Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?



Concrete



## About your invention ... ( create a cool company name)

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

We are prepared to sell  % of the business for £  ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

# William Burt

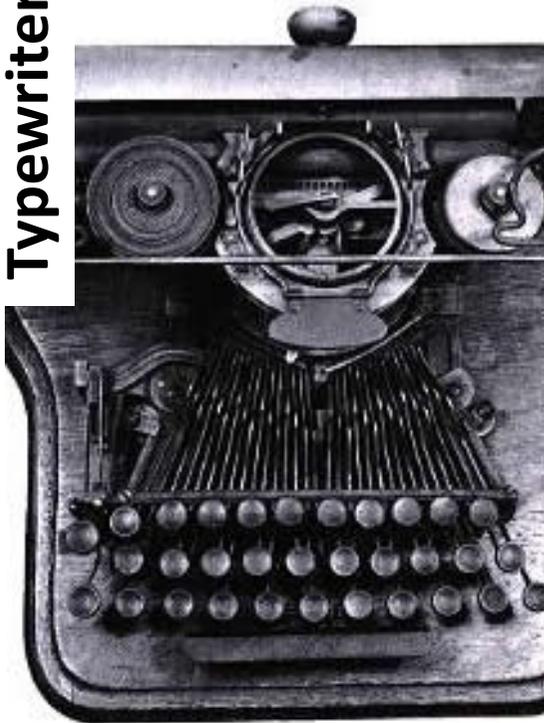
Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?



Typewriter



## About your invention ... ( create a cool company name)

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

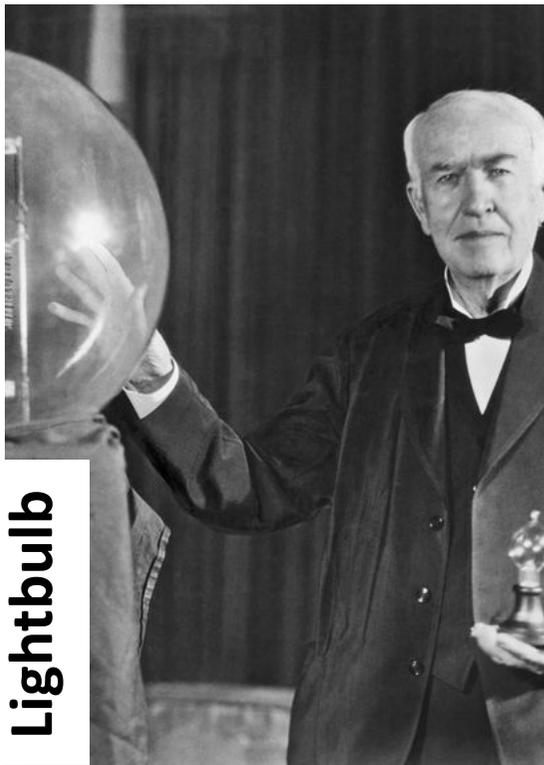
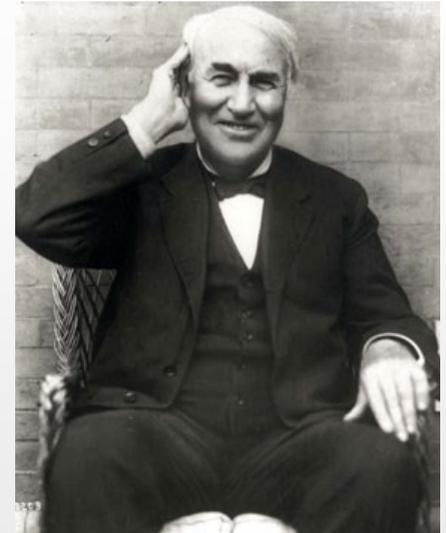
We are prepared to sell  % of the business for £  ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

# Thomas Edison

Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?



## About your invention ... ( create a cool company name)

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

We are prepared to sell  % of the business for £  ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

# Eli Whitney



Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?

---

---

---

Cotton Gin



## About your invention ... ( create a cool company name)

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

---

---

---

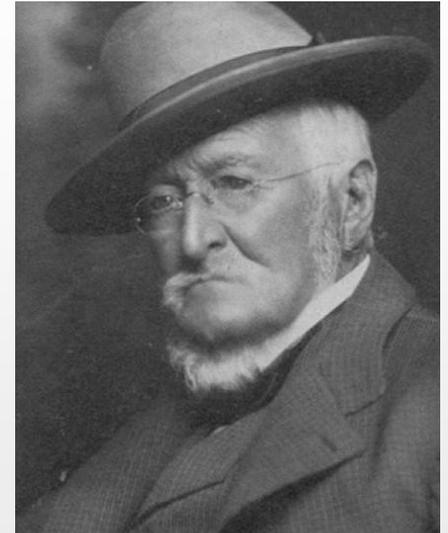
We are prepared to sell  % of the business for £  ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

# Joseph Glidden

Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?



## About your invention ... ( create a cool company name)

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

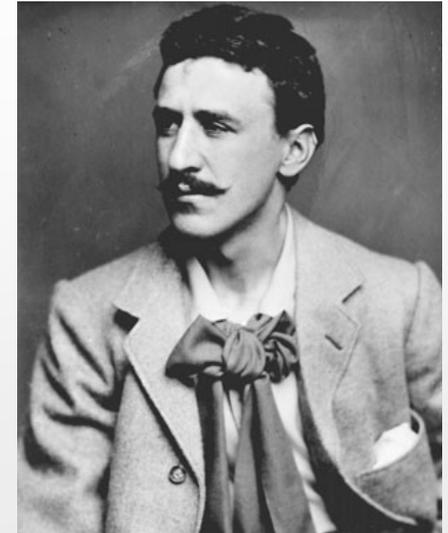
Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

Barbed Wire



We are prepared to sell  % of the business for £  ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

# Charles Mackintosh



Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?

Raincoat



## About your invention ... ( create a cool company name)

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

We are prepared to sell  % of the business for £  ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

# Allesandro Volta

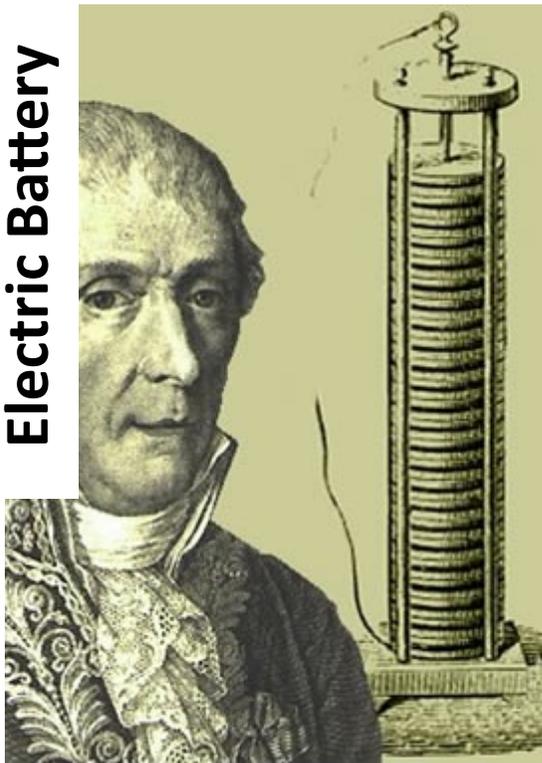
Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?



Electric Battery



## About your invention ... ( create a cool company name)

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

We are prepared to sell  % of the business for £  ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

# Gaston Plante

Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?



Rechargeable Battery



## About your invention ... ( create a cool company name)

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

We are prepared to sell  % of the business for £  ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

[Empty box for name]

Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your character \_\_\_\_\_

Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?

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



## About your invention ...

What this invention can do: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything like this already being used at this time - how is yours better?

Why will your invention revolutionise the world ... the importance of your idea?

Anything else of significance about this invention - why should the Dragon's invest?

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

[Large empty box for drawing or additional notes]

We are prepared to sell [ ] % of the business for £ [ ] ( Note - Each Dragon has £200 000 )

**For Dragons' : Target Inventor + Invention =**

Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Century: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Details of their background

\_\_\_\_\_

Other inventions or achievements?

\_\_\_\_\_



**Potential questions for your target invention/s ...**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

[www.icHistory.com](http://www.icHistory.com)

