Dragons' Den

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 Renaissance 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						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		**25**				

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						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		**25**				

Criteria and Scoring (Dragons)

Dragon Name:

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		**21**			

Dragon Name:

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		**21**			

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 their 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

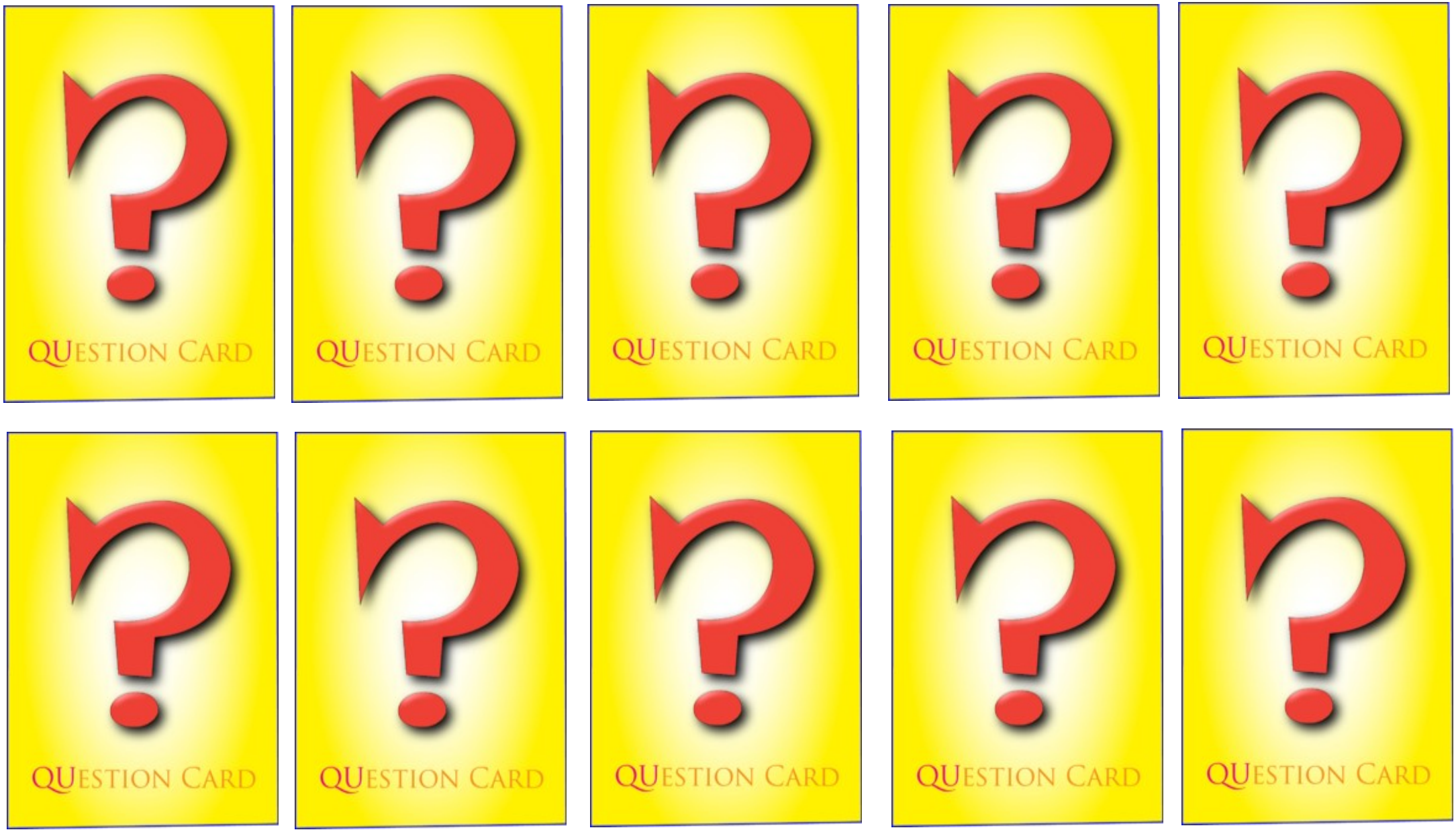
Ensure all the money / gold coins are cut up and ready for the activity

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.



Christiaan Huygens ….

Year of Birth: _____ Century: _____ Country: _____ Town: _____

Describe your character _____

_____

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

_____

_____

_____

Mechanical Clock

About your invention … 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)

Cornelius van Drebbel ...

Year of Birth: _____ Century: _____ Country: _____ Town: _____

Describe your character _____

_____

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

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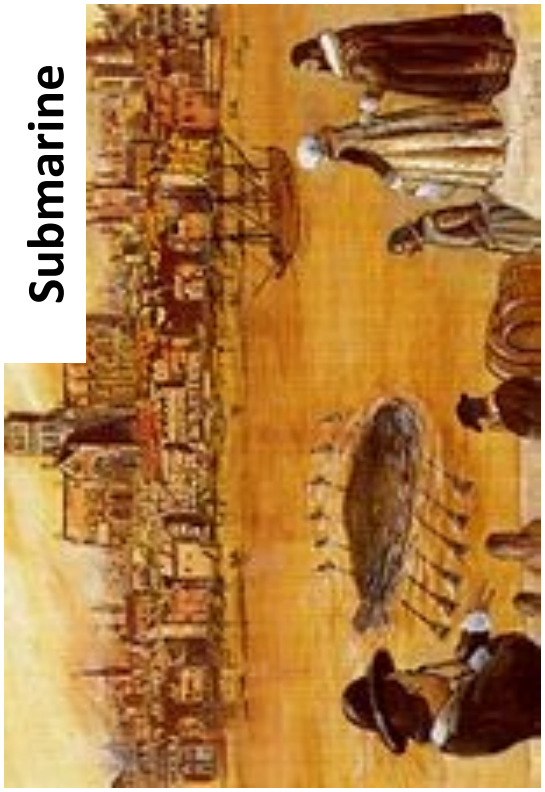
Submarine



About your invention ... cool company name?

What this invention can do: _____

_____

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

_____

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

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

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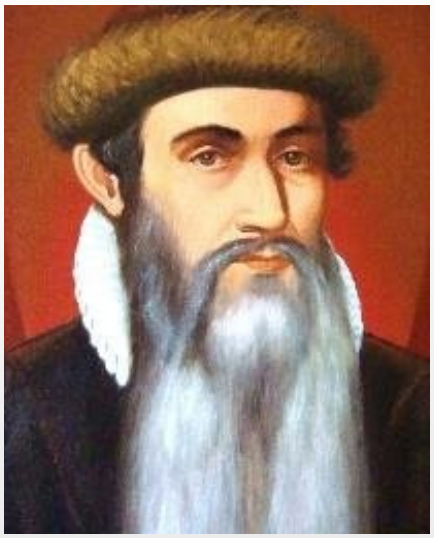
We are prepared to sell ____ % of the business for £ ____ (Note - Each Dragon has £200 000)

Johann Gutenberg ...



Year of Birth: _____ Century: _____ Country: _____ Town: _____

Describe your character _____

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

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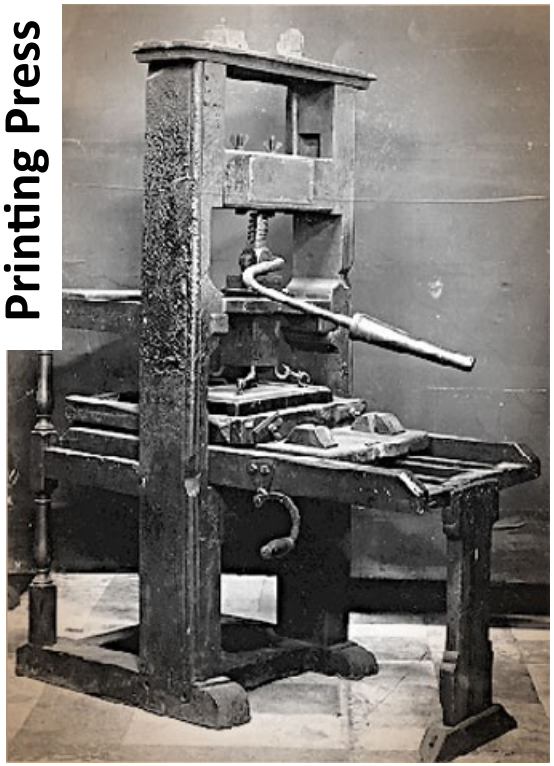
_____

Printing Press



About your invention ... 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?

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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)

Roger Bacon ???

Year of Birth: _____ Century: _____ Country: _____ Town: _____

Describe your character _____

_____

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

_____

_____

_____

Eyeglasses

About your invention ... cool company name?

What this invention can do: _____

_____

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

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

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

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

Robert Boyle ...

Year of Birth: _____ Century: _____ Country: _____ Town: _____

Describe your character _____

_____

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

_____

_____

_____

The Match

About your invention ... 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?

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

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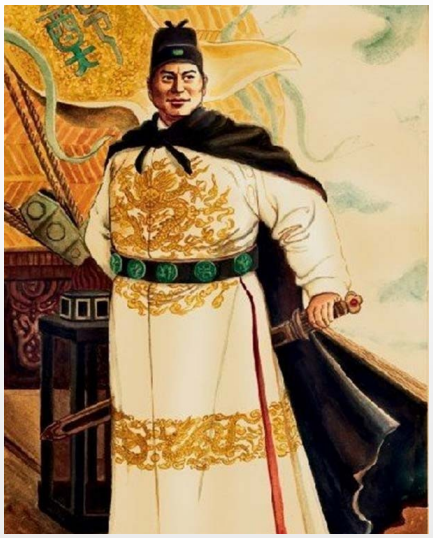
We are prepared to sell ____ % of the business for £ ____ (Note - Each Dragon has £200 000)

Zheng He ...



Year of Birth: _____ Century: _____ Country: _____ Town: _____

Describe your character _____

_____

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

_____

_____

_____

Mariner's Compass

About your invention ... 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)

Sir John Harrington ...

Year of Birth: _____ Century: _____ Country: _____ Town: _____

Describe your character _____

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

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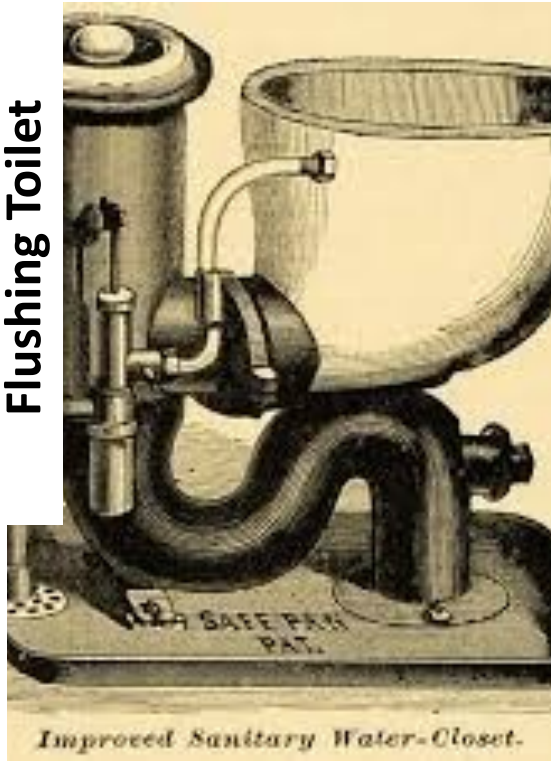
_____

_____

Flushing Toilet



About your invention ... cool company name?

What this invention can do: _____

_____

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

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_____

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

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

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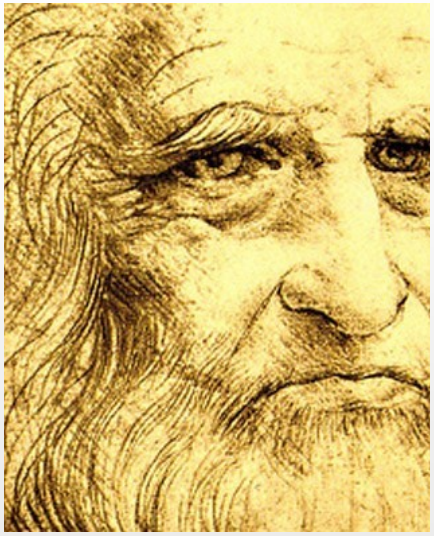
We are prepared to sell ____ % of the business for £ ____ (Note - Each Dragon has £200 000)

Leonardo da Vinci ...



Year of Birth: _____ Century: _____ Country: _____ Town: _____

Describe your character _____

_____

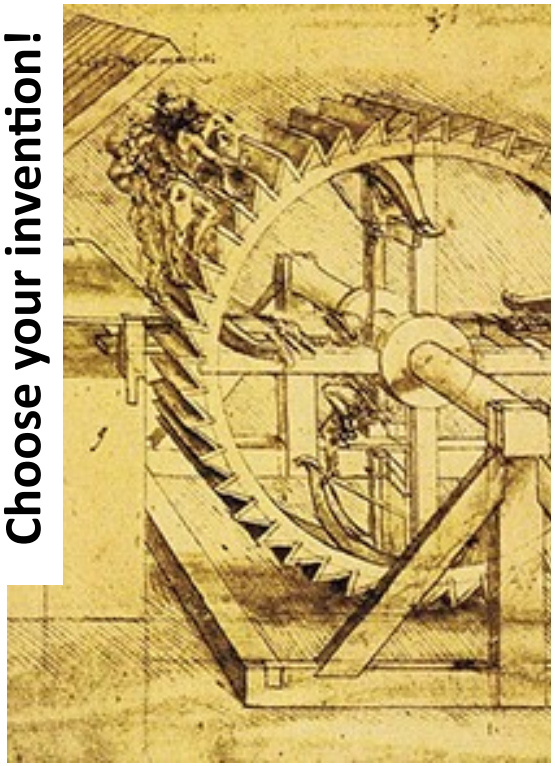
Explain your background / what inspired you to become an inventor? Previous inventions?

_____

_____

_____

Choose your invention!



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What this invention can do: _____

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

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

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

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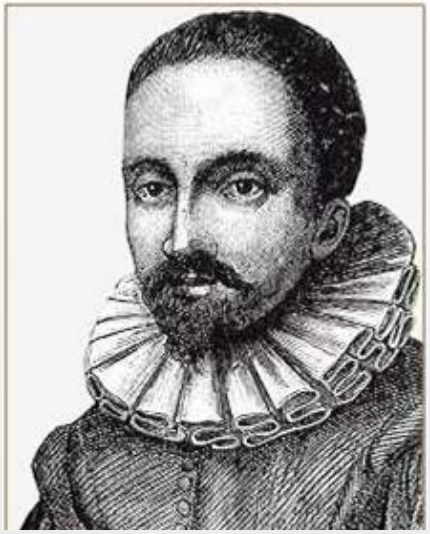
We are prepared to sell ____ % of the business for £ ____ (Note - Each Dragon has £200 000)

Hans Lippershey ...



Year of Birth: _____ Century: _____ Country: _____ Town: _____

Describe your character _____

_____

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

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_____

_____

Telescope

About your invention ... 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)

Conrad Gesner ...

Year of Birth: _____ Century: _____ Country: _____ Town: _____

Describe your character _____

_____

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

_____

_____

_____

The Pencil

About your invention ... 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?

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

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

Year of Birth: _____ Century: _____ Country: _____ Town: _____

Describe your character _____

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

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About your invention ...

What this invention can do: _____

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

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

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

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_____

_____

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._____

_____

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