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Gifts and Gadgets

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Discover amazing **Inventions**, solve
tricky **problems**, and explore

God's *handwork* in



To Teachers and Parents

With an emphasis on God's creation and the human mind, *Gifts and Gadgets* showcases lovable characters like Homer Price and Mr. Popper, while highlighting the bright minds of Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Morse, and Katherine Johnson, as well as the incredible features of animals such as skates, seals, and penguins. Through this book, students will learn about famous inventions from the past and then compare them to modern technology with the help of child-inventor Ty Baxter. Delightful and dramatic tales, written from unique perspectives, will allow students to review the difference between first- and third-person point of view. Interesting stories and articles highlighting problem and solution invite students to develop their own solutions to everyday problems. Students will once again be challenged to analyze the material and draw conclusions from it with thinking questions marked with an asterisk.

Gifts and Gadgets

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Pronunciation Key

Symbol • Example

| | |
|--------|----------------------|
| ā | āte |
| â | dâre |
| ă | făt |
| ä | fäther |
| ə | ago (ə·gō') |
| ē | ēven |
| ĕ | ĕgg |
| è (ər) | pondèr |
| ī | īce |
| î | îr |
| ō | ōver |
| ô | côrd, taught, saw |

Symbol • Example

| | |
|----|---------|
| ö | nöt |
| oi | boil |
| ōō | fōōd |
| ōō | bōōk |
| ou | out |
| th | thin |
| th | thèrè |
| tŭ | picŭrè |
| û | ûnit |
| û | hûrt |
| Û | Ûp |
| zh | measure |

The Gift of a Gadget

Bethany Urbina

Early one morning, snowflakes gently drifted down and began to pile on the housetops, lawns, and fence posts of Charleston Street. The small country neighborhood

was usually quiet on Saturday mornings, that is, all except for the Baxters' house.

Ping! Ping! Whirr! Clang!

Most mornings and evenings, such noises could be heard from their lighted garage. All of the children in the neighborhood knew Ty Baxter was to blame, but Peter, being new to the street, couldn't help but wonder what his neighbor was doing. He curiously poked his head around the garage door to see Ty tinkering away with an object Peter had never seen before. When Ty happened to glance up from his work, he noticed Peter standing there.

"Hey, Peter," Ty said, without putting down his tools.

"What is all this?" Peter asked as he looked around the garage with amazement. The garage was filled, floor to ceiling with hundreds of wires, springs, scraps, and tools.

“This is Ty’s workshop!” said a voice behind him. He turned around to see a girl and a boy riding their bikes up the driveway. The curly-haired girl took off her helmet and explained, “He’s an inventor.”

“We call him ‘Ty the Gadget Guy,’” the tall boy next to her added.

Ty smiled proudly. “Peter, this is Will and his sister Jamie. They live a couple of houses down the street.”

Peter greeted them shyly, but Will didn’t hesitate to include the new neighbor in his plans.

“I know you’re busy now,” said Will to Ty. “But in a couple of hours, when the snow builds up, let’s have a snowball fight on the corner! You and Peter against me and Jamie.”



Flash Forward



The world of **medicine** is growing and changing in incredible ways! For example, before the 1900s, doctors could only diagnose a problem based on what they could see with their eyes. With just the human eye to look for problems, many diseases went undetected and caused early death or lifelong sickness in patients, but with today's technology, doctors can use a detailed scan such as an x-ray, MRI, CT, or sonogram to see and understand what's happening inside a patient's body. With these images, doctors can clearly examine a torn ligament in need of repair, a blood clot blocking an artery, and an unborn baby inside his mother's womb!



x-ray images



x-ray machine



sonogram

The Creativity of God

While mankind has invented many wonderful things throughout history, they could never compare with God's creation. The universe is God's art gallery, and He never stops filling it with unique and beautiful masterpieces. He carves out magnificent



canyons, paints breathtaking sunsets, and carefully molds precious new lives every day.

God's astounding creativity can also be seen in the animal

kingdom. The world is filled with millions of kinds of animals, all different colors, sizes, and shapes. Each animal has a unique voice and is equipped with special tools needed to survive. Do you think God enjoyed creating all these unique



and colorful animals? Did He smile when He first thought of the baggy elephant? Did He laugh when He finished making the quirky platypus? The Bible says in the book of Revelation that God created all these wonderful things for His pleasure. In the book of Genesis, we see that God looked at everything He had made and said it was good. Then He took time to rest and look over His beautiful and lively creation. Let's take time now to look at some of God's unique masterpieces that can be found in the animal kingdom.





Charles Roman: Doctor and Teacher

Bethany Urbina

Charles Roman was an important medical doctor, professor, and writer in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Being the son of an escaped slave, Charles Roman was a determined boy and took a job of gathering herbs for a doctor when he was just a child. When he was a few years older, he began working at a mill from sunrise until sunset. Even though he worked this tiring job all day, he still made time to go to night school and learn all



BUILD ON IT

Point of View— First and Third Person

In a story that is written in **first-person** point of view, the narrator includes himself as a character in the story by using pronouns such as *I*, *me*, or *we*.

Example:

- » "I can't be late again!" I thought to myself. As I turned around the corner, I bumped into an older girl, making her drop all her books.

Because the speaker is only a character himself, he usually cannot know the other character's thoughts or feelings. He can only know as much as his character knows. We do not know the name of the older girl because she has not introduced herself to the speaker.

In a story written in **third-person** point of view, the narrator will *not* refer to himself or be included as a character in the story. He will only use pronouns such as *he*, *she*, and *they* or proper names while narrating and telling the story exactly as it happened.



Example:

- » One morning, Meg was running late to class. As she turned the corner she smacked right into Lucy, an older girl, on her way to the library.

Because the narrator in this point of view is simply the author, he has the ability to say, if he chooses, what each character is thinking or feeling. Because this version of the story is in third person, we can know more than the characters know. We know the older girl's name is Lucy even though she has not introduced herself.



Think It Through

Give the correct answer.

1. What clues may tell you a story is written in first person?
2. What clues may tell you a story is written in third person?

Turn the page to find out which point of view was used to write "We Invent the Franklin Stove."

