

Inventions: Made in America Research Poster

A large part of drafting, design and engineering is the ability to come up with, or invent an idea, put that idea in drawings, and be able to produce it. There are products that we use everyday which have become just a way of our American life and continue to shape it. Many products invented have not only sculpted our way of life, but also have left their mark on our American landscape. Think of how many McDonalds you can name the exact locations of. Think of how you would communicate with your friends if a man Alexander Bell never tried to “talk with electricity”. Think about going grocery shopping for your family and there was no such thing as a “shopping cart”. Think about a day at the beach without your bottle of Coppertone. Behind each great American Product, there is usually a great American story, and it is your challenge to find that story.

Come up with a one sided 8.5”x11” presentation page on the background of an American invention. Include a brief, well written write up about the product and include images. You will be graded on your overall quality of the presentation, the content and research, and grammar.

Bell Telephone

Birthplace: Boston, MA

Originator: Alexander Graham Bell

Date Introduced: 1876

Patent: #174,465, February 14, 1876

Bell Telephone Founded: 1877

First Exchange, Hartford, CT (1877)

First Long Distance Call: August 10, 1876

Company Now: AT&T

2004 Revenue: \$30.537 billion

Alexander Graham Bell immigrated to the USA in 1871. He came from a Scottish family that were passionate about speech and language, and soon began to teach deaf-mutes. Bell’s fascination with language led him an interest in the concept of transmitting speech, from which developed the basic concept for the telephone. He and his assistant, Thomas Watson, then spent several years refining the practicalities of converting ordinary speech into electrical impulses – to “talk with electricity” as Bell put it. They succeeded finally in transmitting the first sentence in 1876, with bell saying: “Watson, come here; I want you.”



Did you know?

- Featured telephone is a 300, designed by Henry Dreyfuss. It was nicknamed the “cheese dish.”
- AT&T, “Ma Bell’s” direct descendant, invented the cell phone in 1978.
- Bell also invented the metal detector in 1881.

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Rubric

“Presentation” Format- *is it visually interesting to look at? (It doesn't look like a Word Document slide)
Good color choices, good text sizes for a title and general text, pictures etc. Well organized and aesthetically pleasing.*

2	1.5	1	.5	0
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Research/ Content: *In-depth or good summary of research discussing the invention history, what it does etc. Someone reading your poster will gain knowledge from it.*

1.5	1	.5	0
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Write-Up: *Correct spelling, good word choice, free from grammatical errors.*

1	.5	0
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Name and Date: *Included your name and date on the front of the poster.*

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