

Ideas and Invention

Have you ever had an idea ?



I bet you have!

Maybe it was something new you wish you had, such as a new toy or piece of playground equipment.



Maybe it was something you wanted to change, such as making it easier to clean

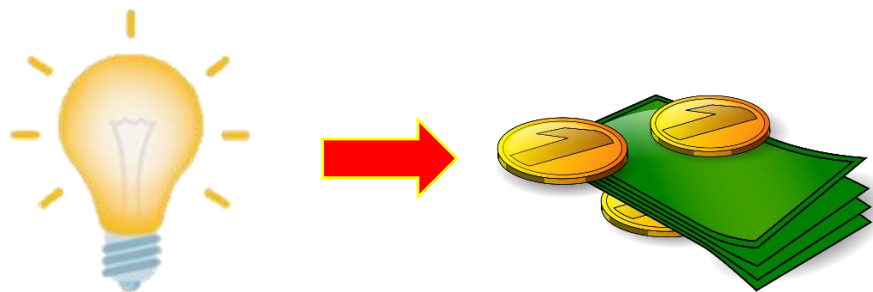
a messy room.



How do you know if your idea is valuable?

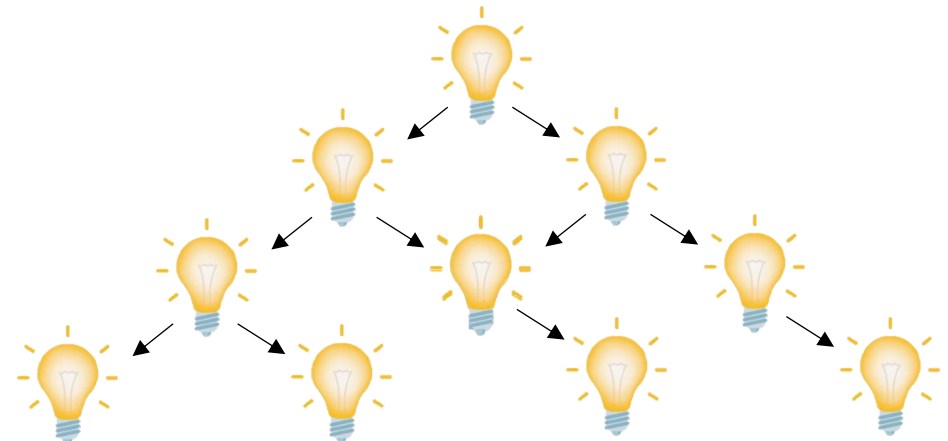
Would you believe me if I told you that

ALL ideas are valuable?

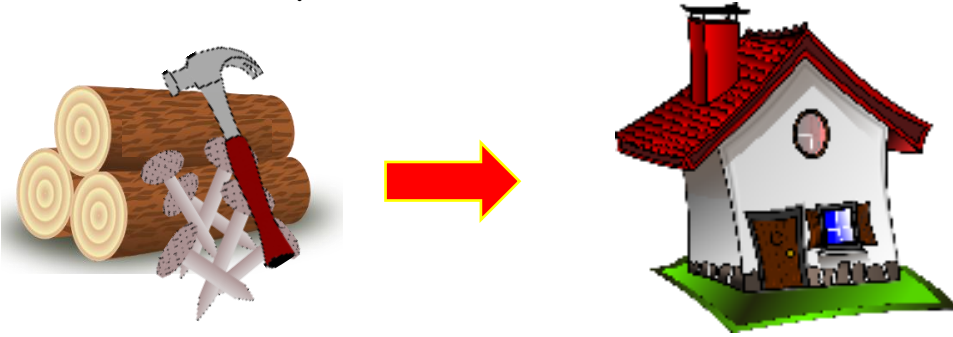


It's True!

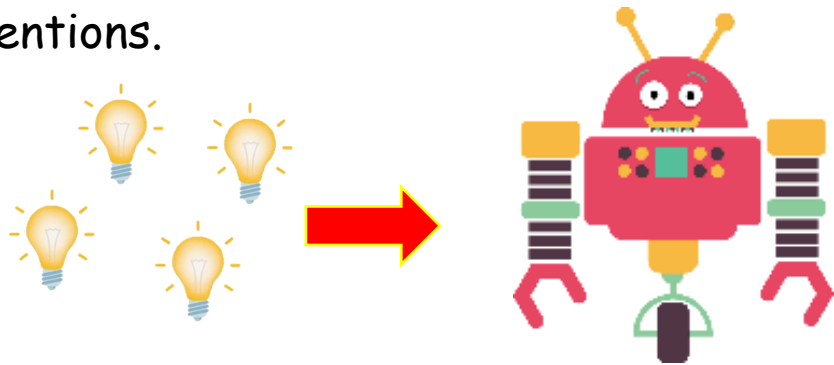
Even if an idea does not turn into an invention it is still valuable. All ideas are valuable because they all help create new ideas! And those ideas help create even more new ideas.



Just like wood, nails, and hammers are the tools that help build a house,

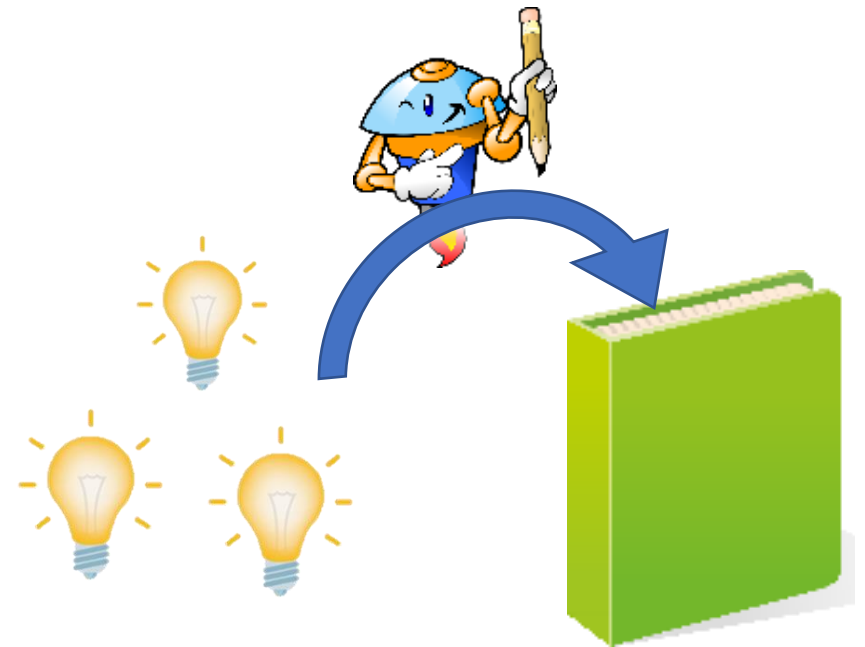


ideas are the tools that create new inventions.



A house needs a lot of wood and nails, and an invention needs a lot of ideas.

Did you know that many inventors carry a small notebook? They write down ideas as they think of them. They do not want to forget their ideas.

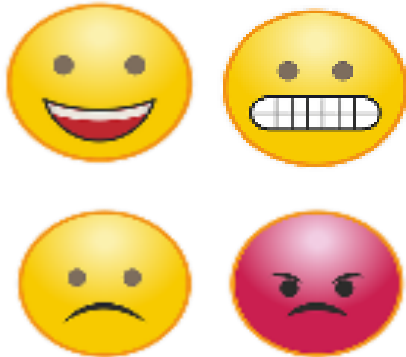


They know that even if they cannot use their idea now, they might use it in the future.

Has someone ever tried to copy your answer on a test?



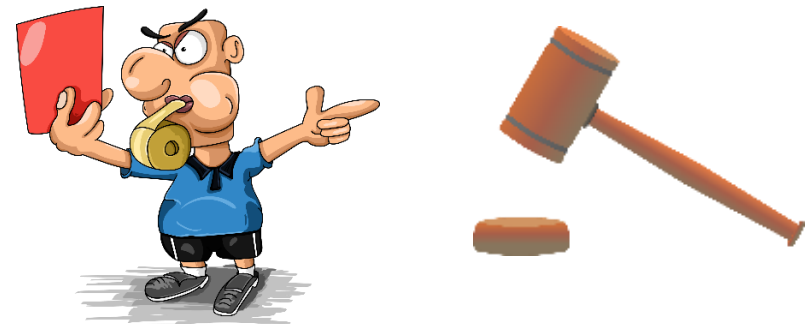
If so, how did that make you feel?



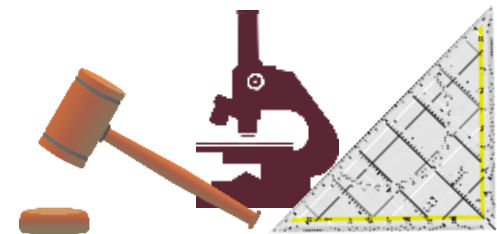
I am guessing you did not like it.



Just like teachers have rules to keep students from copying answers on tests, governments have laws to keep people from copying ideas. These laws are called **intellectual property laws.**



People who work in this field must understand a lot about law, science, and engineering.



Vocabulary

Term	Definition	Picture or Simplified Definition
Brainstorming	Brainstorming is collecting and sharing a lot of ideas to solve a problem.	
Creative Thinking	Creative thinking is using your knowledge and things you learn in school to come up with a new idea.	
Inventor	An inventor is a person who comes up with a new way to solve a problem.	
Intellectual Property	Intellectual property is a law that protects inventions.	
Entrepreneur	An entrepreneur is someone who turns ideas into a business and then gets to be their own boss!	