Lesson: Shark Tank Inventions

Objective: To create a unique invention and gives a sales pitch to the “Shark Tank” team

Instructions: Kids should work in groups. Materials can be placed in a paper bag.

Materials: Materials can be anything you want! Suggestions: Pipe cleaners, tape, paper, cardstock, yarn, buttons, googly eyes, cups, coffee filters, etc.

Step 1: Engage

Hook em! The activity should be presented in a creative and engaging way to pique the interests of the kids. Instructions and objectives should be explained. Kids can share any knowledge or thoughts about the subject.

Suggestions to get them interested
- Ask children if they have ever watched the television show “Shark Tank”
- Ask children if they know of any famous inventors and what they invented
- Ask children what the difference is between a scientist and an inventor
- Book: “Marveltown” by Bruce McCall

Talking Points: In general terms a scientist is a person who studies nature and makes theories and discoveries as to how nature works using the scientific method. An inventor takes the laws and theories of science and puts them to practical use by humans. Many people are both scientists and inventors. For example, Isaac Newton was a scientist when he wrote about the theory of gravity, but he was also an inventor when he made the first working reflecting telescope.

Step 2: Explore

Hands on! Kids can investigate, explore, experiment, play and learn. Instructors should be asking open-ended questions to expand learning. As conclusion of the activity is near, instructors should be asking kids if there is any way they can extend the activity.

Suggestions for Open Ended Questions
- So what are you working on?
- What are you finding to be difficult?
- How will your invention help people?
- How did you come up with your idea?
- How are you working together as a team?

Step 3: Evaluate

Reflect! Kids can present their finished projects or share what they learned. Instructors should be asking kids questions that reflect on the activity. Did you stick to your original plan? Did anything surprise you? Is there anything you would have changed?

Suggestions for Evaluation
- Have kids present their inventions to the shark tank team. They should have a cost and a marketing plan on how to sell their invention.