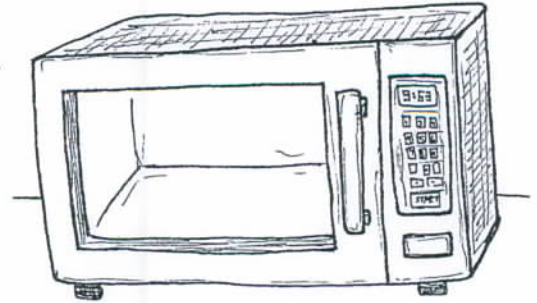


A Hot Invention

Review Key Words⁶

- experiment** An experiment is a careful test to see if something is true or if something works.
- invention** An invention is a new creation or idea.
- curiosity** Curiosity is a desire to know about something.
- results** Results are things that happen because something else happened.



Write a Prediction

Read the Story⁷⁻⁹

8 In the 1940s, a **curious** man did an
 14 **experiment**. The **results** led to an
 21 **invention**. The invention led to a huge
 27 change in the way people cooked.
 33 The man was Percy Spencer. He
 40 worked for a **company** that made tubes
 44 called magnetrons. Magnetrons used
 50 tiny radio waves, called microwaves, to
 57 **track** planes. One day, as Percy stood
 65 near a magnetron, a candy bar in his
 70 pocket melted. Percy was curious.
 77 What would happen if he put other
 84 foods near the magnetron? He got some
 89 popcorn. Within seconds, it popped.
 97 Later, Percy got an egg. The egg heated
 103 up quickly and then **exploded**. What
 was going on?

106 Percy learned that microwaves can
 111 reach inside food. They heat food
 117 inside and outside at the same time. As
 125 a result, microwave heat cooks food
 131 much faster than **regular** heat.
 136 In 1947, the company Percy worked
 142 for made the first microwave oven. It
 149 stood nearly six feet tall and weighed
 156 around 700 pounds. It cost thousands of
 163 dollars. Few people wanted to pay so
 170 much.
 171 Later, companies made smaller, less
 176 **expensive** microwave ovens. Now
 180 many people use them every day. These
 187 people can thank Percy Spencer for his
 194 **curiosity**.
 195

	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4
words read in 1 minute				
- number of mistakes				
= total words read correctly				
adult initials				

A Hot Invention

Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
 - a. The first microwave oven was almost six feet tall and seven hundred pounds.
 - b. Microwaves heat food inside and outside at the same time.
 - c. A man's curiosity led to the invention of the microwave oven.
2. What heated up in Percy's pocket?
 - a. an egg
 - b. popcorn
 - c. a candy bar
3. What does the word **track** mean in this story?
 - a. to know where something is
 - b. a footprint in the dirt
 - c. a path through the woods
4. How are microwaves able to cook food so quickly?
 - a. Microwave ovens cook smaller amounts of food.
 - b. They heat food inside and out at the same time.
 - c. Microwave ovens are very large.
5. How did a man's curiosity lead to the invention of the microwave oven?

6. A synonym is a word that has the same meaning as another word. Match each word with its synonym.

1. expensive	a. ___ burst
2. curious	b. ___ ordinary
3. exploded	c. ___ costly
4. regular	d. ___ interested

Parent Tips

Listening to your learner read will tell you a lot about whether or not she is comprehending a particular passage. No matter how bright a learner is, if she is not reading easily and with expression, there is not enough attention being focused on meaning.