

grabbed the liquid chemicals that, when mixed, would harden into the sole of a shoe. He poured the mixture into the waffle iron—and the Waffle Trainer was born.

Bill's company launched the Waffle Trainer in 1974. It was a huge hit. Maybe you've heard of that company—it's called Nike. And today it's worth around \$100 billion.

Bill ruined the family's waffle iron when he used it



A PIECE OF HISTORY The Bowerman family's waffle iron is kept at Nike headquarters.

that day. Barbara buried it in the backyard, where the family put their trash.

In 2010, Barbara and Bill's son Tom dug up part of their property. He uncovered a rusty old hunk of metal that had

been buried for years.

It was the waffle iron that had changed the course of Bill's life—and helped turn Nike into a household name.

Today, what's left of the Bowermans' waffle iron is kept at

Nike headquarters. It serves as a reminder that if we keep trying, we can find a solution to even the toughest problems.

And those solutions can come from unlikely places. Even the breakfast table. •

Action Activity

How did Bill Bowerman reach his goal?

Write a paragraph to answer this question. Get started by using facts from the article to finish the sentences below.

Remember to indent the first sentence!

Topic Sentence	<p>Bill Bowerman was trying to</p> <p>_____</p> <p>The main idea of your paragraph: What was Bill Bowerman's goal?</p> <p>_____</p>
Detail 1	<p>At the time, running shoes were</p> <p>_____</p> <p>What was wrong with the running shoes that existed at that time?</p> <p>_____</p>
Detail 2	<p>Bill tried</p> <p>_____</p> <p>What did Bill do to try to solve his problem?</p> <p>_____</p>
Detail 3	<p>Then Bill watched his wife, Barbara, as she</p> <p>_____</p> <p>What was Bill's inspiration?</p> <p>_____</p>
Conclusion	<p>In 1974,</p> <p>_____</p> <p>What new product did Bill create?</p> <p>_____</p>

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