**Invention Convention Research**  Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Hour \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Now that you have a testable question, it is important to do some background research. What do scientists think they already know about the topic? What are some processes involved and how do they work? Background research can be gathered first hand from primary sources such as interviews with a teacher, scientist at a local university, or other person with specialized knowledge. You can also use secondary sources such as books, magazines, journals, newspapers, online documents, or literature from a non-profit organization. Do not forget to make a record of any resources used so that credit can be given in a bibliography.

**Checklist**: I will be collecting the following when the research is due.

1. Research outline
2. Research notes
3. Research summary paragraph
4. Bibliography

**Research outline:** The research outline is meant to help you narrow your research. This should help you get an idea of what you can and need to research about your invention.

What is your invention?

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When would you use it?

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Where would you use it?

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Why is it useful?

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Are there any similar inventions or experiments?

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Who could you interview to find more information?

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What places could I visit to find more information?

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What other relevant research could I do?

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**Research notes:** Now that you have an outline, do your actual research. You should take notes on all the information you find. Write everything down! Keep a log of the sites you’ve visited and jot down what you found on them. An easy way to keep a log is to open a word document and copy and paste the URL of each site you visit. You may do this on a word document, google docs, or notebook paper. You may find that after your research you want to change your question or invention. That sometimes happens and you may change it as you’re doing your research, be sure to keep Ms. Murphy updated on any changes.

**Research summary paragraph:** You will need to display your background research. This will be considered your rough draft. You will need to summarize all your research into a paragraph that is easy to read and understand.

Possible starter sentences could include:

-On this site \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I found..

-I interviewed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and found..

-There are several similar inventions which include..

**Bibliography:** You need to include your list of sources in alphabetical order.