

They Were INVENTORS, Too!

So you know that Thomas Edison invented the light bulb and Alexander Graham Bell spoke into the first telephone. But have you ever heard of African American inventor Jan E. Matzeler, who built the shoe-lasting machine (which helped cobblers attach soles to shoes), or James Ritty, inventor of the first cash register? Unscramble the letters below to learn more about these lesser-known inventors of the 1800s and their bright ideas. Answers on page 48.

1. Cloth diapers would not have stayed on babies if Walter Hunt had not had the sharp idea to invent this in 1849.	AESTYF INP
2. Your mouth might be filled with cavities if George Green had not invented this electric tool in 1875.	ALEDTN LRDIL
3. These kitchen utensils were born out of cooking teacher Fannie Farmer's desire to know exactly how much baking powder she was putting in her cream scones.	SGMANRIEU SONPSO
4. Teachers could not scold you for sticking this under your desk if Thomas Adams had not patented this sweet treat in 1871.	NWHEGIC MGU
5. In 1896, this moving stairway built by Jesse Reno became Coney Island's newest amusement park ride.	LROAETCSA

6. When Leonard Norcross designed this costume out of rubber, he made it possible for humans to swim like fish.	VIDGNI TISU
7. You would be hard pressed to find a place to smooth out the wrinkles in clothing if African American inventor Sarah Boone had not patented this in 1892.	ORGNNII ABDRO
8. Whitcomb Judson's "clasp-locker" of 1893 earned this name due to the noise it makes when you pull it up or down on your clothing.	RIPEZP
9. Chester Greenwood invented these after his ears got freezing cold while ice skating at a pond.	REAFMSUF
10. Life in the deep sea came into focus when Sarah Mather invented this optical device in 1845.	MBUENRSIA PSELCEOTE
11. James Naismith bounced around a few ideas and invented this game, which originally involved throwing a ball into a peach basket.	KTBSLBALAE
12. African American Lyda Newman helped Americans keep their hair free of knots when she invented this in 1898.	RHIAHURBS