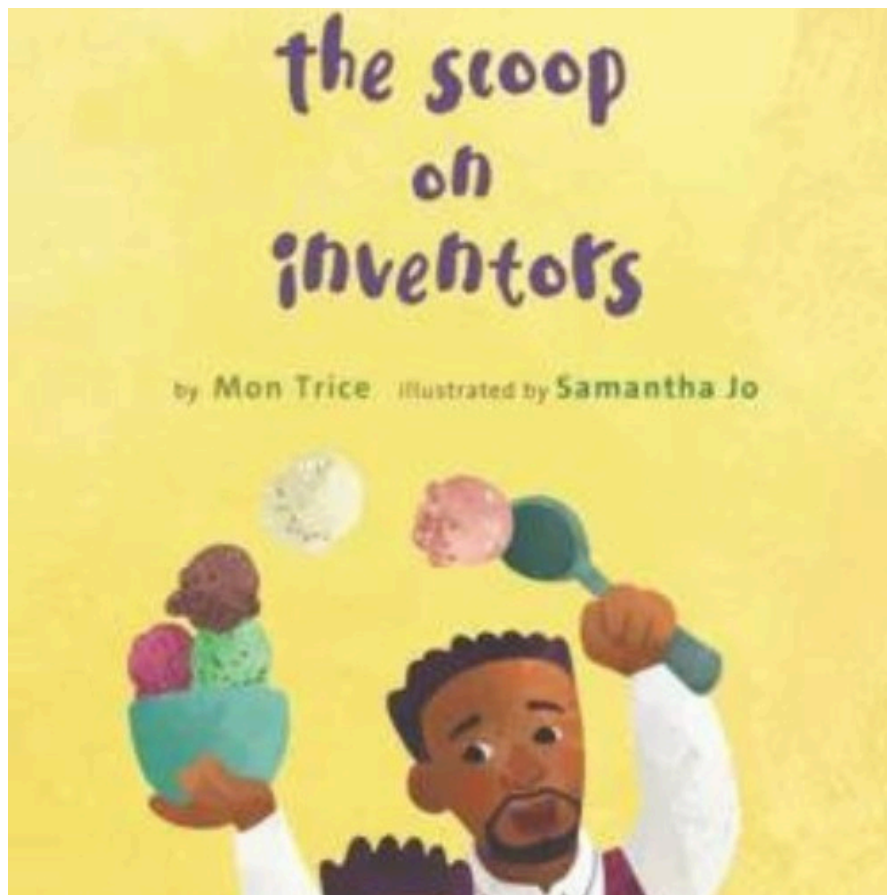


The Scoop on Inventors

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



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THEMES

Family & Friends

STEAM

Inclusion & Disability

SUB-THEMES

African/American inventors

Unknown Inventors

Story Discussion Guide

- Learn about important inventions created by African Americans
- Reflect on representation and inclusion in school learning
- Recognize the role of innovation in improving everyday life
- Understand that contributions can come from all communities, even when history books don't mention them
- Develop critical thinking about whose stories are being told

Lesson plan

This lesson introduces children to lesser-known inventors and encourages pride in heritage and curiosity about everyday objects. It fosters inclusive learning and historical awareness

Learning Outcome

Before Reading:

- Can you name an inventor and what they made?
- Have you ever learned about inventors from different countries or backgrounds?
- Everything in your house has been invented by someone. Can you name a few discoverers?

During Reading :

- Pause as each invention is mentioned and ask if students have used it.
- Ask: Have you ever thought about who made these items?
- Invite children to share their reactions to Dré's feelings.

After Reading:

- Why was Dré disappointed after his school lesson?
- What did Dré learn from his dad?
- Why is it important to learn about inventors from all backgrounds? What invention would you create to help your family?

Activities:

- Inventor Gallery: Children research and present one African American inventor.
- Design an Invention: Kids draw and describe a useful tool they would invent.
- Hidden Figures Wall: Create a class mural of underrecognized inventors and scientists.

Expected Outcomes

Children will feel empowered by learning about inventors who look like them, gain awareness of bias in education, and be inspired to create and ask questions about the world around them. They will also understand that creativity and scientific thinking are universal—present in every culture, race, and community.

Applicable SDGs

- SDG 4: Quality Education
- SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

SDG Explanation

- SDG 4: Highlights the importance of inclusive education and teaching diverse histories.
- SDG 8 & 9: Honors the contributions of African American inventors in fields of work and innovation. SDG 10: Challenges systemic underrepresentation by showcasing diverse voices in STEM history.

ABOUT ZAMASAMA

Zamasama is a nonprofit initiative that curates children's stories from diverse cultures and lived experiences around the world. It gives children a window into other communities—and a mirror that affirms their own, helping children recognize the shared humanity that connects us across differences.

Through narratives that gently challenge biases and broaden worldviews, Zamasama helps children see difference not as a barrier but as a bridge. Through the power of stories, we sow the seeds of pluralism that can grow into a more harmonious world for all.