



Summer is here, and so is the perfect read to keep those curious minds buzzing! I'm thrilled to introduce you to Kinzie's *Kinventions*, a delightful story that promises to inspire creativity and spark the imagination of kids of all ages. Whether your young reader is a budding inventor or simply loves a funny character, Kinzie's clever and quirky inventions will keep them entertained and engaged all summer long.

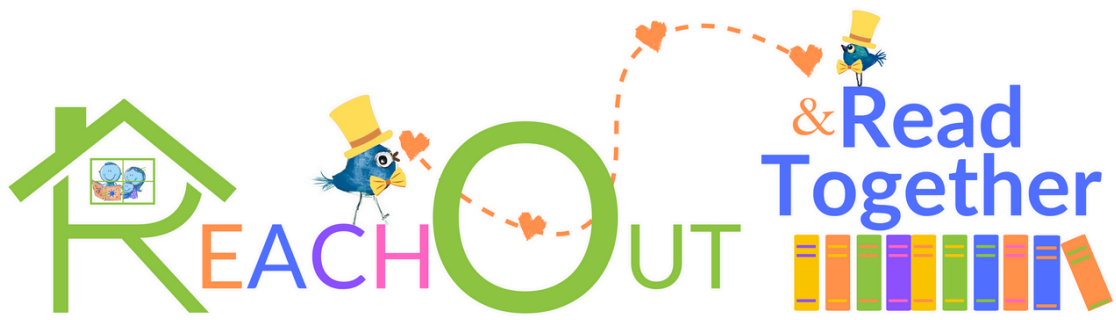
As always, this month's REACH guide is packed with fun activities inspired by this month's book selection that generations can enjoy together. From building simple kinventions to solve real problems to crafty creations, there's something for everyone to join in and share the joy of connecting with a great story.

Open your copy and watch as Kinzie's world of creative problem-solving captures your child's heart. It's the perfect companion for lazy afternoons, road trips, or cozy bedtime reading.

Here's to a summer filled with fun, laughter, and a whole lot of *Kinventions*! Warm, Sunshiney Wishes!

See you next month!
Donna B.

REACH Editor & Concierge of Children's Book Fun



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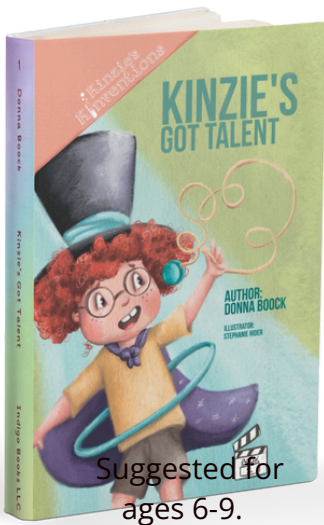
Kinzie's Kinventions

What do you get if you add a beakerful of STEAM, a sprinkle of mischief, and a heaping dose of humor? Kinzie's Kinventions, of course!

This young chapter book series will appeal to Junie B. Jones readers.



This Month's Featured Book: Kinzie's Got Talent (book #1)



It's talent show time, and Kinzie could win a real pretend-gold trophy! There's only one problem. Kinzie can't find her talent. Sure, she's good at a lot of things. But dodging the Ferocious Lee Monstrous monster in the basement, fixing her best friend's tapped-out tap shoes, and reading *Whiz Kidz* science magazine don't count as talent. But could they be part of a bigger, soon-to-be-discovered talent?

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Discussion Questions for REACH Partners

1. Have you ever felt like you didn't have a talent or were unsure about your abilities? How did you overcome this feeling?
2. Kinzie tries various things to find a talent, like singing and skating. Can you think of a time when you tried something new and it didn't go as planned? How did you handle it?
3. Kinzie faces a scary situation in the basement. Have you ever faced a fear or a challenge that seemed scary at first? How did you handle it?
4. Kinzie's mom encourages her by saying, "You'll find your talent. There's something special about each of us, but sometimes we have to try lots of things before we find our special thing." Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not? Can you think of examples from your own life or from the story that support this idea?
5. Kinzie decides to learn magic tricks but fails to impress her sister and dad. Despite this, she remains determined to find her talent. What does this tell you about Kinzie's character? How can you apply her attitude toward challenges in your own life?
6. Kinzie demonstrates resilience and creativity in solving problems, such as fixing Cori's shoe. How do you think these qualities help her in other aspects of her life, like finding her talent for the talent show?
7. Despite Puppy Paste not working as intended, Kinzie remains positive and uses the experience as a learning opportunity. How does this reflect her growth as an inventor and problem-solver? How can you apply this mindset to challenges you face?
8. Kinzie shows determination and enthusiasm in creating her Kinventions video, even after her first attempt doesn't go as planned. How does this experience help her discover her talent? How can trying new things and learning from mistakes help you discover your talents and passions?

Discussion Questions for Classroom Teachers & Librarians

1. Why do you think Kinzie want to participate in the talent show so badly?
2. How does Kinzie feel when she realizes she doesn't have a talent to showcase? How does she try to find a talent?
3. What do you think Kinzie's reaction reveals about her character? How does she handle the challenges she faces?
4. Kinzie struggles to pay attention in school because she is preoccupied with finding a talent for the talent show. How does this affect her behavior in class? Have you ever felt so excited or worried about something that it was hard to focus on other things?
5. When Kinzie receives her Whiz Kidz magazine, she learns about inventors and the steps they follow to create something new. How does Kinzie decide to apply these steps to her own problem of finding a talent? Do you think this is a good approach to problem-solving?
6. Kinzie tries to learn a magic trick to impress everyone, but her attempts are unsuccessful. How does she react to this failure? What does she decide to do next? Have you ever tried something that didn't work out the way you planned? How did you handle it?
7. Kinzie decides to use her inventor skills to create a solution for Puppachino's bad breath. How does she handle it when Puppy Paste doesn't work out as planned?
8. Kinzie creates her first Kinventions video but encounters a problem when Puppachino won't let go of the toothbrush. How does Kinzie handle this unexpected situation? What does she learn from this experience about inventing and sharing her ideas?



Read-Aloud Action Theater!

"A Star Is Born," is an enchanting read-aloud script based on a scene from *Kinzie's Got Talent* and is designed to engage young readers in a shared reading experience.

The read-aloud script for "A Star Is Born" is crafted to create an interactive and immersive storytelling session. By reading the script aloud, parents, grandparents, teachers, and children can explore the narrative together, enhancing comprehension, vocabulary, and listening skills.



Characters:

- **Narrator**
- **Kinzie**
- **Puppachino** (No words, just actions)
- **Mom**
- **Mr. Cole**
- **Ben** (No words, just actions)
- **Cori** (No words, just actions)
- **Hannah** (No words, just actions)
- **Dad**

Narrator: (excited) Welcome to our read-aloud play of "A Star Is Born" from the book by Donna Boock (Boock rhymes with sock). Let's meet our characters!

(Kinzie, Puppachino, Mom, Mr. Cole, Ben, Cori, Hannah, and Dad step forward and wave to the audience.)

Narrator: (continuing) Let's begin!

Narrator: (morning sounds) Early one morning, Kinzie woke up before everyone else in the house. She had a plan. Now that she knew her talent, she was ready to get started.

Kinzie: (thinking aloud) How can I show off my talent as an inventor at the talent show? I can invent something and show it to everyone, but they wouldn't see me build it. Or I can invent something brand new on stage, but I wouldn't have a lot of time.

Narrator: Kinzie sat down with Puppachino, her dog, to scratch his ears.

Kinzie: (petting Puppachino) Let's solve a problem. Maybe how to freshen your smelly dog breath, Puppachino?

Narrator: Puppachino thanked her by licking her face.

Kinzie: (writing in journal) I need a problem to solve, some materials, and a great plan. I can dress up like an inventor and bring Puppachino onstage to show everyone how minty fresh his breath is.

Narrator: Kinzie followed the smell of blueberry pancakes to the kitchen.

Kinzie: (to Mom) Mom, I have an idea for the talent show!

Mom: (excited) That's a great idea, Kinzie! We can work on it after school.

Narrator: Kinzie went to school, paid attention in class, and even worked on her idea during recess. After school, Mom was ready with her phone to record.

Mom: (ready to record) And three . . . two . . . one . . . rolling!

Kinzie: (excited) Hello, Kinventors! Today, we're solving Puppachino's bad breath! We'll mix crushed-up dog treats, fresh parsley, and mint with a bit of water to make Puppy Paste.

Narrator: Kinzie shook the box of dog treats, and Puppachino came running.

Kinzie: (holding toothbrush) Now, let's see how Puppachino likes his Puppy Paste.

Narrator: Puppachino bit down on the toothbrush and wouldn't let go.

Kinzie: (tugging) Let go, Pup. Let's see if your breath is minty fresh.

Narrator: Puppachino finally let go when Kinzie shook the box of dog treats again.

Kinzie: (sniffing Puppachino's breath) Oh no! His breath still smells like stink! Well, sometimes new inventions fail. But that doesn't mean we should quit. It's time to try another idea.

Narrator: Mom pressed the red button to stop recording.

Mom: (smiling) Let's make your ViewTube channel and post your video.

Kinzie: (eager) Can I use your phone, Mom? I want to call Grandma and my aunts to get fans for my page.

Mom: (laughing) Okay, but first, please put all this stuff away.

Narrator: Kinzie cleaned up, and even rinsed off the toothbrush.

Narrator: The next day at school, it was finally time for the talent show. Kinzie watched as Ben juggled two balls and Cori's tap shoes were tap-tastic. Then, it was her turn.

Mr. Cole: (encouraging) Next up, Kinzie with her invention!

Kinzie: (proudly) Introducing . . . Kinzie's Kinventions!

Narrator: Kinzie started her video.

Kinzie: (on screen) Hello, Kinventors, and welcome to the first-ever episode of Kinzie's Kinventions! I'm Kinzie, and here's where I'll share my ideas to solve very real problems with stuff you probably already have in your junk drawer. So drop me a like, and subscribe to Kinzie's Kinventions so you can Kinvent with me!

Narrator: The audience laughed in all the right places. When it ended, everyone clapped.

Mr. Cole: (announcing) And for Most Original . . . Kinzie McMillan!

Narrator: Kinzie high-fived Cori and smiled at **Ben**.

Kinzie: (happy) This girl's got talent!

Narrator: **Cori**, **Hannah**, and **Kinzie** went to the front to get their trophies.

Dad: (proudly) You were great, Kinzie!

Mom: (laughing) I'd say you were Kincredible!

Kinzie: (excited) Thanks! Now, let's see how many new fans I have on my channel. Kinzie's Kinventions is ready to take over the Kinternet!

Narrator: And that's the story of how Kinzie became a star!

Narrator: (smiling) Thanks for watching our read-aloud play! Remember, every failure is just a step towards success. Keep inventing, keep dreaming, and always stay Kincredible!

(The cast bows as the audience claps.)

Narrator: And that's the end of our play! Thank you for joining us, and don't forget to subscribe to Kinzie's Kinventions!





Writing is FUN!

Work together to make up a song about Kinzie's cool inventions. Use words that talk about the amazing things Kinzie makes and how exciting it is to watch!

Here's an example:

Verse 1: 🎵 Hey there, Kinventors, come along and see,
All the cool inventions made with creativity!
With Puppachino by her side and a big ol' smile,
We'll solve real problems and have fun all the while! 🎵

Chorus: 🎵 Kinzie's Kinventions, it's the place to be,
For clever solutions and creativity!
Grab your junk drawer treasures, and let's have some fun,
With Kinzie's Kinventions, the adventure's just begun! 🎵

Outro: 🎵 So like and subscribe, join the Kinventor crew,
With Kinzie's Kinventions, there's always something new!
Let's Kinvent together, the fun here never ends,
Welcome to our channel, where problems are our friends! 🎵

Make Your Own Kinventor's Journal



Here's how you can do it:

Materials Needed:

- Blank notebook or journal
- Decorative paper or fabric for covering the journal (optional)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers, pens, or stickers for decoration
- Inventor-themed stickers or printed images (gears, light bulbs, etc.)

Instructions:

1. Cover the Journal: If you're using decorative paper or fabric, cut it to size and glue it onto the cover of the journal. This will give it an inventor-inspired look.
2. Decorate the Cover: Use markers, pens, or stickers to decorate the cover of the journal. You can write "Inventor's Journal" or "Kinzie's Kinventions" on the front.
3. Create Sections: Divide the journal into sections, such as "Ask," "Imagine," "Plan," "Create," "Test," and "Improve," just like Kinzie's inventor's journal in the book.
4. Decorate Inside Pages: Use markers, pens, or stickers to decorate the inside pages of the journal. You can add inventor-themed stickers or printed images or doodles to inspire creativity. Be sure to leave plenty of room to write!
5. Use the Journal: Use the journal to write down your own ideas for inventions or solutions to problems they encounter. You can follow the steps outlined in the book, just like Kinzie does.

This craft not only ties into the theme of the book but also encourages creativity and problem-solving skills, just like Kinzie demonstrates throughout the story.

Kinzie's Kinventions

Be a Kinventor Challenge



Objective: To use the design method from *Kinzie's Kinventions* to solve a real problem using items found at home.

Materials Needed:

- Paper
- Pencils or markers
- Items found at home (e.g., household objects, craft supplies)

Instructions:

1. Ask: Identify a problem you have at home or at school that they would like to solve. For example, keeping track of your toys, organizing your school supplies, or finding a better way to wake up in the morning.
2. Imagine: Brainstorm ideas for solving this problem. Think creatively and come up with multiple solutions. List or sketch your ideas on paper.
3. Plan: Based on their brainstorming, have children choose the best solution. Make a plan that includes a list of materials you will need.
4. Create: Using items you have at home, create your invention or solution. You can use household objects, craft supplies, and anything else you think will help.
5. Test: Once your invention is complete, test it out to see if it solves the problem.
6. Improve: Think about how well it worked. If it didn't solve the problem completely, think about how you can improve it. Make some changes and test it again.

This activity not only encourages creativity and problem-solving skills but also teaches children how to use everyday items to create innovative solutions.