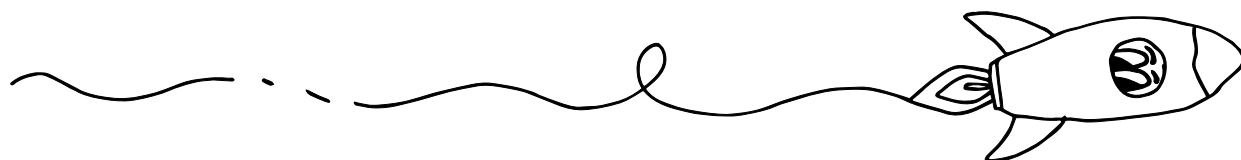


INSPIRE THE FUTURE GENERATION OF INNOVATORS!

**IDEAS
for
EARS**
Powered by MED[®]EL

Challenge your pupils to dream big
and craft innovative solutions for hearing loss.
**Join the IDEASforEARS Children's Invention
Contest with your entire class!**



CLASS PARTICIPATION

Submit entry and consent forms collectively to ideasforears@medel.com. The best participating class will receive a special prize! Please note that for this event, group travel to Innsbruck won't be available as a class reward.

INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATION

Each kid submits their idea via the [website](#) and joins as an individual. The kid could then be selected as one of the main prize winners and get the chance to travel to the MED-EL HQ in Innsbruck, Austria.

- Submit ideas before January 17, 2026 (midnight CET).
- Await the announcement of winners (February 12, 2026).

If you have any questions, email us at IDEASforEARS@medel.com

HOW TO BRING IDEASforEARS INTO YOUR CLASSROOM!

**IDEAS
for
EARS**
Powered by MED[®]EL

Connect IDEASforEARS to your own curriculum and to various school subjects! Transform it into an interdisciplinary learning adventure that goes beyond just spotlighting hearing issues. It's all there: creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, and entrepreneurial spirit.

MAKE THIS CONNECTION HAPPEN!

BIOLOGY

Explain the anatomy of the ear, how sound waves work, and the physiology of hearing.
Study the biological mechanisms of hearing, including the role of the cochlea and hair cells in the ear.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Teach children about what can make them lose their hearing, the different ways it can happen, and how they can keep their ears safe.
Explore various assistive technologies and devices available for individuals with hearing loss. Encourage students to come up with innovative ideas for new devices.

SCIENCE

Talk about the science of sound and acoustics. Pupils can conduct experiments to understand how different materials change how sound travels.
Explore noise pollution and its effects on our hearing. Discuss how loud sounds can harm our ears and the importance of protective gear.
Explore how sound is measured (decibels) and how sound intensity can impact hearing.

ART & DESIGN

Create a human ear model with items found in the kitchen / garden / made of cardboard / photos.
Encourage pupils to design hearing devices that are easy to use and look good.
Challenge pupils to design clothing or accessories that incorporate hearing aid technology in a stylish way.

MUSIC

Get pupils to explore how music can be changed to include people with hearing challenges. Include touch-based music notation, pictures for music, or systems that provide tactile feedback.

Encourage students to create performances that involve not just hearing, but also other senses like sight and touch. They could add visuals, vibrations, or even scents to their performances to make them more engaging. Does this spark an idea for an IDEASforEARS innovation?

LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION

Have pupils write a 100-word-story about the challenges faced by people with hearing loss and the impact of their innovation.

Discuss how language and communication vary across cultures and languages, emphasizing the importance of inclusivity and accessibility in communication.

Explore different cultures and their ways to communicate verbally / non-verbally.

HISTORY

Discuss the historical development of hearing aids and other assistive devices, highlighting the contributions of inventors and innovators in the field.

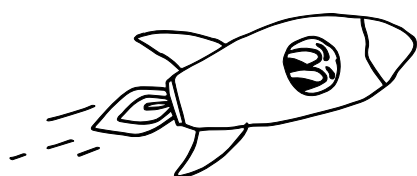
Learn to know about historical figures who were hard of hearing or had hearing loss, such as Ludwig van Beethoven, Francisco Goya or Thomas Edison and how they used innovation to overcome challenges with their hearing loss.

MATHEMATICS

Explore the geometry of sound waves and how they interact with the ear. Calculate the wavelength, frequency, and amplitude of different sounds.

Look at data about hearing loss, like how many people have it, which age groups are more likely to get it, and how well different treatments work.

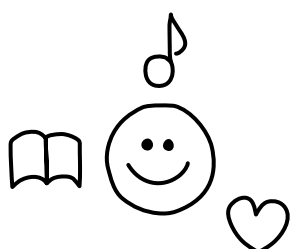
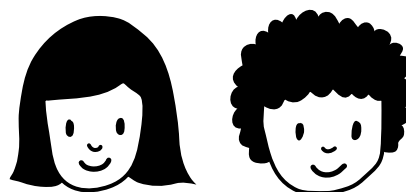
Ask students to gather information about how many people in different age groups or places have hearing difficulties. Analyze the data to calculate percentages, averages, and other relevant statistics.



NEED SOME HELP TO COME UP WITH AN IDEA?

THINK ABOUT A PERSON!

Who do you know with hearing loss
or a hearing implant?

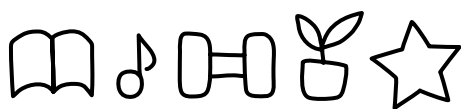
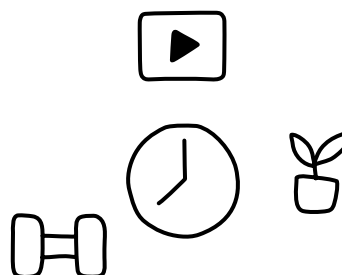


THINK ABOUT A HOBBY!

Does the person with hearing loss
face any challenges while practicing this hobby?

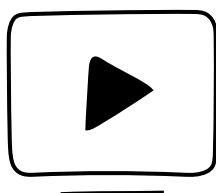
THINK ABOUT DAILY LIFE!

Does the person with hearing loss
face any challenges in daily life?

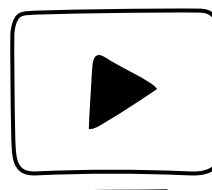


THINK ABOUT A THEME!

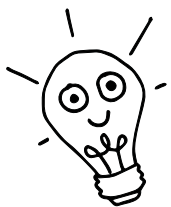
You could choose a topic you're interested in
(e.g., school, sports, environemnt, music)



Watch a [video](#) of our chief juror Geoff.
He is an inventor himself and shares
his top tips to be an inventor.



Watch a [video](#) of our previous
winners about what skills it takes
to be an inventor.



YOUR TIME TO SHINE

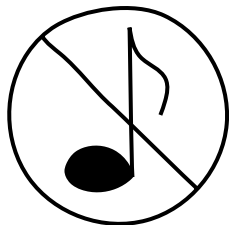
HELPFUL TIPS FOR FILMING

Now it's time to present your invention.
Here's how you can record a great video to make your idea stand out.



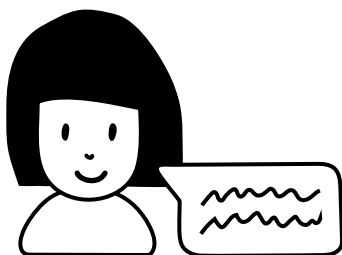
1 ASK SOMEONE FOR HELP

Ask one of your parents or older siblings for help. This will make the filming process much easier!



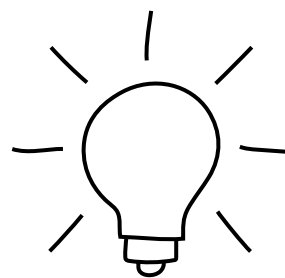
3 CHOOSE A QUIET SPOT

Look for a video location with no background noise such as traffic, airplanes, wind, loud voices, or barking dogs.



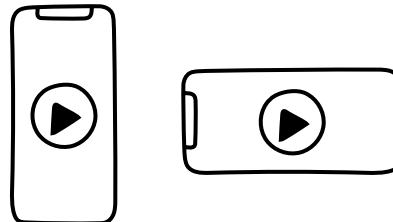
5 PRESENT YOUR IDEA

Now it's your time to shine! Explain your drawing or poster. Share your thoughts behind your invention, how it works, and how it makes the lives of people with hearing loss easier.



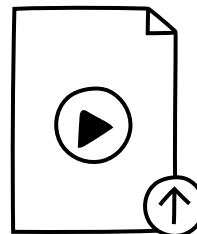
2 FIND A GOOD SOURCE OF LIGHT

Try to find a space near windows/doors or a light that's in front of you.



4 FILM PORTRAIT OR LANDSCAPE VIDEO

Ask your parents to film you at your eye level. They can hold the phone, or place it on a tripod or any flat surface. Both portrait and landscape modes are welcome.



6 SUBMIT YOUR VIDEO

The clip should not be longer than 60 seconds and not bigger than 100 MB. Once you are ready, submit your video on IDEASforEARS.medel.com.

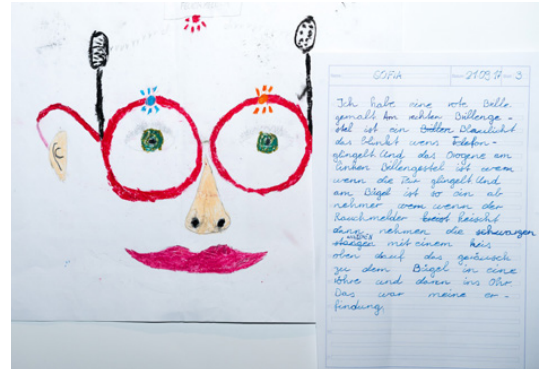


PREVIOUS WINNERS' IDEAS

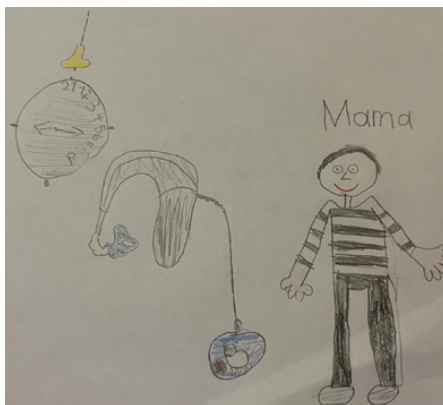
IDEAS for EARS
Powered by MED[®]EL



When losing the processor:
alarm goes off "I am a bionic ear",
GPS helps to locate the processor

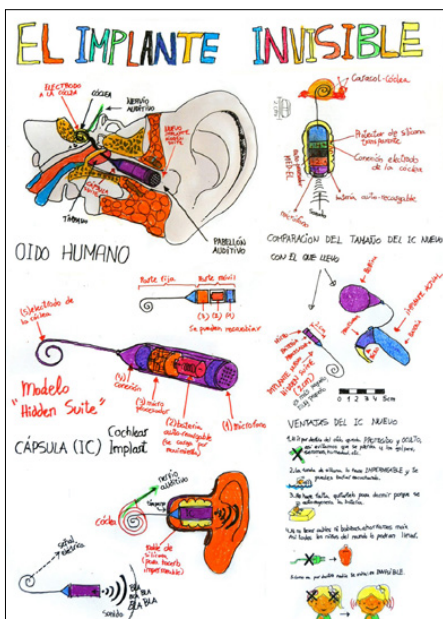
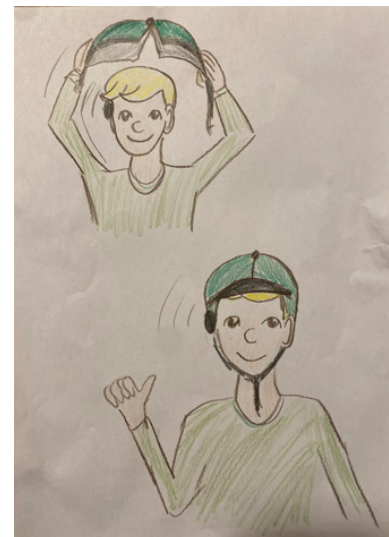


Alarming glasses for fire alarm,
phonecalls, and door bells

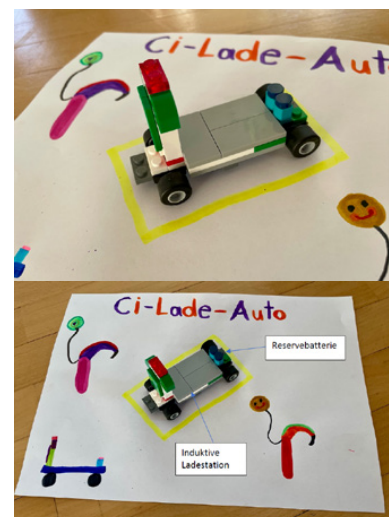


Mommy Alarm
sends a reminder
when battery is
almost empty

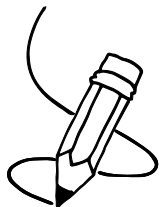
Special sports helmet
for people with a
hearing device



Invisible
audioprocessor



Charging station
for extra batteries



SUBMISSION FORM

**IDEAS
for
EARS**
Powered by **MED-EL**

My IDEASforEARS invention is: _____

Tell us about the inspiration behind your invention idea.
Do you have hearing loss or know someone who has?:

Full name of child: _____

Age of child: _____

Full name of parent or guardian: _____

Country: _____

City: _____

Email: _____

Phone*: _____

How did you hear about the IDEASforEARS contest?:

DATA PROTECTION AGREEMENT

☐ I consent to having MED-EL store my submitted information so they can judge my invention idea and contact me if I am a contest winner.

PERMISSION

☐ I have read the contest Terms and Conditions and I have the consent of my parent or guardian to enter the contest. Questions? Contact: IDEASforEARS@medel.com

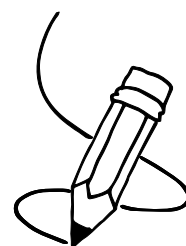
NAME: _____

AGE: _____

MY IDEA: _____

**IDEAS
for
EARS**
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Submit your idea at IDEASforEARS.medel.com



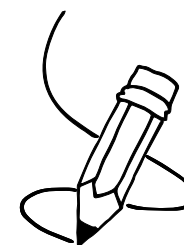
NAME: _____

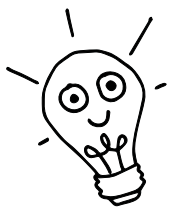
AGE: _____

MY IDEA: _____

IDEAS
for EARS
Powered by **MED**®EL

Submit your idea at IDEASforEARS.medel.com





TERMS AND CONDITIONS

IDEASforEARS Children's Invention Contest

The information on how to enter and all the details of the competition will be provided on the competition entry form. To the extent of any inconsistency, the terms below prevail. By entering the competition, the participants accept these terms. The contest is only open to entries from MED-EL users and their immediate family members (siblings and children).

Children under the age of 13 cannot legally give consent and must obtain consent from parent or guardian on the entry form.

Children of employees (and their immediate families) of MED-EL and agencies associated with this competition are ineligible to enter.

Entries must be submitted on or before January 17, 2026. Entries close at midnight on the final day. You may only submit one entry, and it must be from an individual. Class and group submissions will be rejected. All entries submitted for the competition must be original work personally created by you.

MED-EL in its sole discretion, will select finalists based on originality, creativity, practicality, imagination, and innovation.

The judging criteria is based on an original invention that can improve the quality of life for people with hearing loss.

Finalists from each participating country will be judged by a panel of MED-EL judges to decide the winners.

Overall global winners (number of winners to be defined based on quality of submissions and number of participants) will be awarded a trip to Innsbruck (=main prize). The trip will take place on the 2nd and 3rd of June 2026 and includes 2 nights stay with breakfast at a hotel in Innsbruck for 1 child & 1 guardian in a standard room, economy travel by plane or train to & from Munich, Vienna, or Innsbruck airport only, airport transfers, potential visa costs, and Innsbruck Welcome Card. Prizes cannot be transferred. Secondary prizes consist of MED-EL merchandising products.

Prizes cannot be transferred, exchanged for cash, credit or service.

If you are selected as a winner, you must provide your address for shipment of prize. All customs duty/local taxes (if applicable), are to be paid by you directly to the local authorities.

Winners will be published on or after 12th February 2026 via a global media release.

Entries and ideas submitted in the competition, whether winning or not, become the exclusive property of MED-EL and will not be acknowledged or returned. These can also be used for marketing and publicity for MED-EL.

Photographs of the finalists and their work may be posted on any MED-EL channel, such as the MED-EL website, IDEASforEARS Website, social media or used in future promotional and publicity purposes without compensation, restriction on use or attribution.

Those who enter agree to participate in publicity events and promotions with the media, and in online and offline formats. Each entrant agrees that, his or her submission in its entirety or any portion thereof, including first name, country, age and photo may be published by MED-EL.

By entering the competition participants agree to be bound by these terms and conditions and that the decision of MED-EL is final and binding in all matters relating to this competition, unless governed by law.

All submissions are deemed received at the time of receipt by MED-EL and not at time of transmission. MED-EL records are conclusive as to the time of receipt. Late, lost, stolen, misdirected, illegal, incomplete, illegible, damaged, reproduced, or altered submissions are invalid. MED-EL is not responsible for such submissions nor for any error, technical malfunction, loss, omission, communications delay, or failure.

MED-EL reserves the right to vary these terms and suspend, terminate, or cancel the competition at any time without prior notice, in the event that a stated prize cannot be provided, MED-EL will offer a like for like prize of equivalent value. MED-EL accepts no responsibility for any loss, damage, injury or disappointment suffered by any participant resulting from entering the competition and/or by the acceptance of any of the prizes.

Children have the same rights as adults over their personal data. These include the rights to access their personal data; request rectification; object to processing and have their personal data erased.

Find more information on [IDEASforEARS.medel.com](https://www.ideasforears.medel.com)