

Papa's Mechanical Fish

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

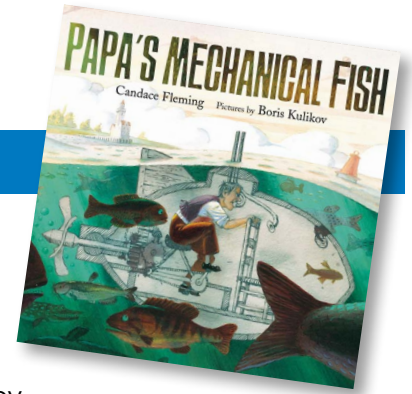
Themes: Invention, Persistence, Problem Solving, Engineering

Book Brief: While on a fishing trip, Papa gets the idea to invent an underwater vessel. As he works on his invention, Papa illustrates the old saying, "If at first

you don't succeed, try, try again!"

Author: Candace Fleming

Illustrator: Boris Kulikov



TIME TO READ!



Before reading, make predictions: What modern day machine do you think Papa is trying to invent? Do you think he will succeed on his first try?

While reading, make

connections: Have you ever thought about making something more efficient? How do you solve problems? What makes you curious? Do any of the

family members in this story remind you of your family?

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ Why are new ideas important?
- ◆ What would happen if inventors quit when they failed?
- ◆ How can asking questions lead to solutions?
- ◆ What was the mother's role in this story?
- ◆ How did the children contribute to the invention?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

SUBMARINE SANDWICH

Ingredients: submarine roll, cheese, deli meat, toppings and condiments

The "sub" was named after submarines back in the early 1900s because of the shape of the bread. Build your own submarine sandwich any way you like! Use your favorite veggies, cheese, and meat or meat substitute. The original subs had cheese on the bottom and top to keep the bread from getting soggy.

TRASH TO TREASURE

Collect scraps of things that you would normally throw away, like egg cartons, paper towel tubes, paper, plastic jars, twist ties, bottle caps, or boxes. Make or build something with the items you collected. Will it be a collage, sculpture, model, machine, or a new invention? Be creative!

BRAINSTORMERS!

Find an ordinary object in your home. The junk drawer in the kitchen is a good place to start! Show the object to your family. Ask them to help you brainstorm new ways to use the object. Keep a list of all the ideas your family comes up with. Maybe you can invent something new!



TECHNOLOGY LINK

Take a tour of the USS Texas: www.youtube.com/watch?v=QSfkliqc3r8. This submarine is home to some of the Navy's finest. How does this submarine compare to the one Papa built? For more information on submarines, visit www.navy.mil/navydata/cno/n87/faq.html.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

Bulldozer's Big Day (2015)

Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart (2012)

Imogene's Last Stand (2011)



Reading Is Fundamental