

# Connecticut Invention Convention Judging Sheet

Group: \_\_\_\_\_

	Inventor	Grade	Invention	SCORING						Comment
				10=Excellent 8=Very Good 6=Good 4=Fair 2=Needs Improvement						
				Originality	Inventing Process	Invention Effectiveness	Practicality of Invention	Need for the Invention	Total	
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										

Judging should be based on the following categories, weighted equally.

**Originality of Invention:** How much creativity was used? How challenging was the problem? Is this a unique, unusual, or clever solution to the problem? What did the inventor do to find out if her or his idea was unique? This should yield an age-appropriate response: a young child might ask a number of people; an older child should explore catalogs, stores and related companies; a middle school student might search the internet or even a patent database.

**Inventing Process:** How well did the inventor explain the steps taken from concept to invention and were the steps logical? Was the process well documented in the inventor's log book? (Young children may use pictures or dictate information to someone.) Did the child include a description of the problem or goal, resources used, obstacles or failures, reasons for choice of materials, final design, and testing? Was credit given to those who helped?

**Invention Effectiveness:** Does the invention solve the problem that was selected? Does it do what it is supposed to? Does it work even better than expected? Does it solve other problems too? Note that you may be looking at a scaled down model due to space limitations.

**Practicality of the Invention:** What advantages and disadvantages does the invention have compared to existing objects or methods that might solve the same problems? Is the inventor knowledgeable about these alternative solutions? How much thought was given to safety, ease of use, and choice of materials?

**Need for the Invention:** How important is the problem solved by the invention? Who benefits from it, many, few, or only the inventor? Does it serve a disadvantaged group, like the handicapped, the elderly, or animals? Is the invention more or less friendly to the environment than currently available products?