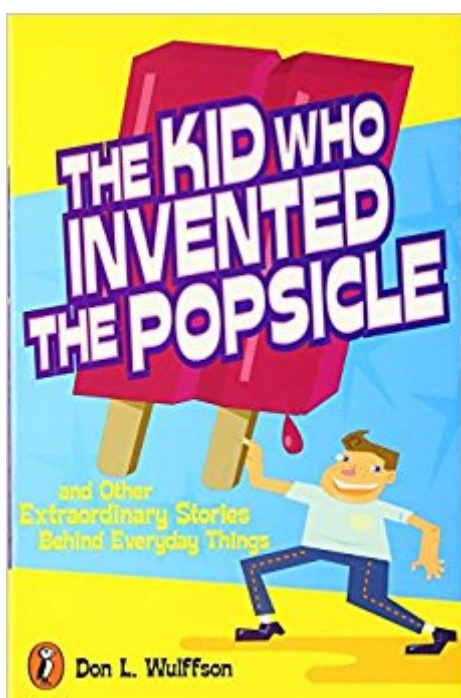


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# The Kid Who Invented The Popsicle: And Other Surprising Stories About Inventions



## Synopsis

Did you know that the ice cream sundae was invented because of a law forbidding the sale of ice cream on Sundays? Or that the first motorcycle was really just a tricycle with a motor? Would you believe that Mickey Mouse started out as a rabbit? Arranged in alphabetical order with anecdotal, fun-to-read text, this fascinating book is packed with the stories behind these and over 100 more inventions. "[An] entertaining volume of trivia." - Kirkus Reviews

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1080L (What's this?)

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; 1 edition (March 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0141302046

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.3 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 37 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #31,613 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Inventions & Inventors #20 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Exploration & Discovery #107 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Reference

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Grade 4-8. This collection includes 114 inventions and the amusing, sometimes amazing stories behind them. Arranged alphabetically from "animal crackers" to "zipper," the inventions range from ancient times (dice have been around for 40,000 years) to recent discoveries such as bar code scanners and Gatorade. Though some major technological advances are included (submarines and robots), most of the inventions are less significant (miniature golf, Tinker Toys, and Fig Newtons). Unfortunately, the format is not particularly exciting. Each invention gets one page, with varying amounts of information. There are two simple sentences about drinking straws opposite a four paragraph treatment of Dr. Pepper. The alphabetical arrangement means that similar inventions are not grouped together. Instead of reading about potato chips and ice cream consecutively,

"ice-cream cone" is followed by "jigsaw puzzle." This book suffers in comparison to Charlotte Jones's excellent *Mistakes That Worked* (Doubleday, 1994) and *Accidents May Happen* (Delacorte, 1996), both of which feature livelier texts, thematically grouped inventions, and amusing illustrations. Where Wulffson's title serves as a list of interesting inventions, Jones's titles convey cohesive ideas about the importance of accidental discoveries. Steven Engelfried, West Linn Public Library, OR Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Audible Audio Edition edition.

Gr. 3<sup>^</sup>-6. Beginning with animal crackers and ending with the zipper, this book alphabetically lists a number of "inventions" and briefly describes how they came into being. Among the items noted are blue jeans, doughnuts, matches, miniature golf, and Scrabble. The boldly colored dust jacket, featuring a popsicle (discovered by a boy who left his soda pop mix and water out in the cold overnight), will draw readers; but oddly, there are no illustrations inside, just a paragraph or so of text per page. Interesting for browsers. Ilene Cooper --This text refers to the Audible Audio Edition edition.

I bought this book because the cover looked really cute, and I thought my 6th grade students would enjoy reading about how things were invented. However, the cover pic is the only pic in the entire book! I would like it a lot better if there were pictures. Also, the stories are each about a paragraph long and read like they have been copied from Wikipedia. My 6.5 year old wanted me to read him some stuff, but he was bored after a couple of stories.

GRANDMA IS READING THIS BOOK FIRST BEFORE IT GETS PAST ON TO THE GRAND KIDS!!  
I ENJOY LEARNING WITH THE GRAND KIDS AND KEEPING THEM INTERESTED IN  
LEARNING WILL KEEP THEM IN SCHOOL.

This is a neat little book. My 7-year old has really enjoyed reading all the fun stories about how different things came about, like Baby Ruth & Dr. Pepper.

we discovered this & other invention history bks by the same author when my 8 1/2 yr old 3rd grade daughter was assigned a book report on an "informational" bk; it was just right; the blurbs are short but informative; kids recognize just about every product & learn about those they don't know; we had fun arranging & photographing a collage display of as many items from the bk that we had

around the house - over 1/2 the 100+; she picked just a few to include in her oral report

Such a great book for my classroom!

Its hard to find something that kids age 5 to 10 can read and enjoy... fun and educational

Bought this for my grandchildren, they enjoyed it. they are 6 and 4. The 4 yr. old wanted pictures, though.

I'm always looking for different little books for my grandchildren. Kids enjoy being the one who knows something that the other kids don't, and this book supplied ample material.

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