

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

Learning about the challenges of a disability

BACKGROUND:

Many persons with disabilities face challenges when using standard devices in daily life. An assistive device helps a person with a disability perform a task or perform that task more easily.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Your instructor will distribute different 3x5 cards that describe what a person with a specific disability will experience.
2. Research what a person with your assigned disability finds challenging and how it impacts them. Additional information about disabilities is available at www.askjan.org/a-to-z.cfm.
3. Select one of Rory Cooper's patents provided by your teacher. Research and identify an inventive assistive device that helps someone with a disability perform tasks equitably.
4. Use the following table to gather information.

Identify Who, What, When and How	Use these questions to guide your answers in column one
Who?	Who does this invention help (beneficiary)? Identify the disability and specific problem a person experiences.
What?	Summarize the invention and how it assists the beneficiary and in what situations.
When?	Based on the selection of one of Rory Cooper's patents, when was this invention patented with the USPTO?
How?	How do you think you could improve this invention if you were to redesign it?

5. Share what you have learned and recorded in the table above. Share your knowledge about the inventive assistive device you researched with your audience (classmates, adults, friends).