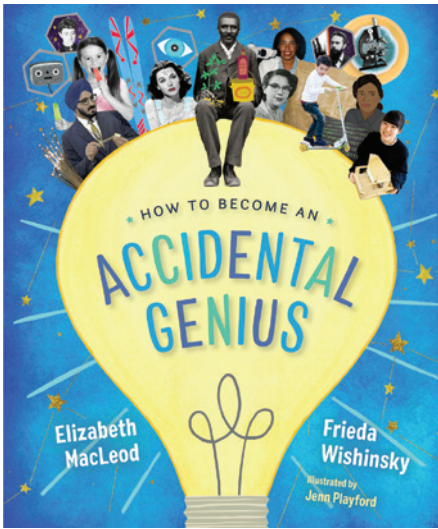
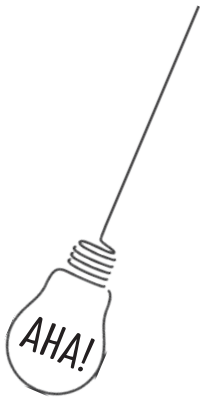


# Questions and Activities for *HOW TO BECOME AN ACCIDENTAL GENIUS*



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1. If you discovered a star like Williamina Paton Stevens Fleming did, what would you call it and why? (Pages 22–23)
2. Have you ever had an X-ray? What did you have x-rayed? What did it feel like? (Pages 24–25)
3. Make a list of things that you think an accidental genius would always be sure to carry in a briefcase or knapsack.
4. Mary Anderson invented windshield wipers in 1903. What invention would you like to add to a car today and why? (Pages 30–31)
5. Sarah E. Goode invented the folding bed. What other furniture could you imagine folding into the wall? Draw a picture of your folding furniture invention. What would you name it? Create an advertisement for your new invention. (Pages 40–43)
6. Many people live in small spaces. Draw a picture of an apartment with only one room. Try to fit in all the things one or two people would need in a small space. Label them.
7. Can you invent an ice cream treat like Frank Epperson did long ago? Maybe one that uses your favorite flavor! It doesn't have to be on a stick. It can be in a cup or a cone or served in some other fun way. Draw a picture to go with your ice cream invention. Make up an advertisement for it so other people will want to treat themselves to your treat. (Pages 50–53)
8. Design a postage stamp featuring one of the geniuses in the book. What will you include with the person to make sure people know what the genius invented or discovered?
9. Tell us five things that you might use sticky notes for at home or at school. Can you think of three funny things someone could use sticky notes for? (Pages 54–57)



10. Imagine you could invite three of the geniuses in the book to come to your house for dinner. Who would you invite and what would you serve?
11. Do you like to jump on trampolines? Draw what you think a superpowered trampoline of the future could look like and how high you could jump on it. (Pages 60–61)
12. You read how Kellogg’s Corn Flakes were invented in 1894. Cereal boxes have changed a lot since then. Design a Corn Flakes box for today or for the future. (Pages 72–75)
13. Imagine one of the geniuses is coming to your school. Make a poster to tell everyone why this genius is famous.
14. Orville and Wilbur Wright created the first airplane. Design your own plane. What special features would it have? (Page 79)
15. Mary Anning found sea shells and fossils at the sea shore. What special things have you found near the sea, a lake or a river near you or one that you’ve visited? If you haven’t found anything, have you ever found a treasure in a park or in a backyard? What treasure would you like to find? (Pages 98–101)
16. How would you feel if you found a dinosaur fossil? If you discovered a new dinosaur what would you name it? Why?
17. Hedy Lamarr was an actress but also had a hidden talent as a decoder. What talent do you have or what talent would you like to have and why? (Pages 102–105)
18. Pretend to be one of the geniuses in the “Accidental Geniuses—A New Generation” chapter and have a friend interview you. Work on the questions and answers together, then present your interview to your friends or class. Try to dress up to look like the genius! (Pages 108–118)
19. If you could invent anything, what would it be and why?

