Name: \_\_\_\_



#### Date: \_

# Aussie Inventors who Changed the World

Work with a partner to read aloud about some other famous Aussie inventors. Circle words that you struggle to read, and practice them until you are fluent. Are there any words you don't understand? Discuss them! Are there clues that can help? Look them up if you're still stuck.



### Harry (second from left) and mates on surf skis in 1919.

## **Baby Car Seat**

Believe it or not, seat belts weren't required in Australian cars until the 1970s. But how could babies be protected? Colin Nagel and Robert Heath solved this problem in the early 1980s when they invented the baby safety capsule. As soon as it hit the market in 1984, hospitals haven't let new parents leave without one.





Baby capsules in 1980s brown, and today.

#### Ute

In 1932, Lewis Bandt was a Ford vehicle designer in Geelong. He received a letter from a farmer's wife. She wanted a car that could take the family to church on Sunday, and the pigs to market on Monday. The ute was released just two years later, when Bandt was only 24 years old.

**GTHO via Wikimedia Commons** 



The 1934 Ford Utility Coupe

### Surf Ski

In 1912, when he was just 15, Harry McLaren designed the surf ski. He'd been inspired by watching porpoises move through the water, and created his craft to "shoot the breakers" (ride the waves) at Pelican Island, in NSW.



# **Hills Hoist**

Lance Hill, a South Australian mechanic, invented this rotary clothes line in 1945. It is height adjustable, can fit more clothes in a smaller area, and is found in most Aussie backyards. The Hills Hoist is listed as an official National Treasure, and even featured in the closing ceremony of the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000!



# If you had to choose...

Imagine that you're rich, and you have to choose ONE of the inventions on these pages to make in your factories. Which would you choose? Is it the one you think is the most important to society? The most fun? The one that will make the most money? Write the speech you would give to the inventors, explaining your choice.

