

Medieval Inventions Around You

Week 15 • Thursday • Old Ideas in Your Modern World

Reading Time

Look around your house — the Middle Ages are hiding everywhere! Does anyone in your family wear **glasses**? Eyeglasses were invented in the Middle Ages. Is there a **clock** on your wall? Mechanical clocks began ringing in medieval towers.

Every book on your shelf exists because of the **printing press**. Buttons on your coat? A medieval idea! Even the **wheelbarrow** in the garden came from that time.

Wind power did not disappear either. Medieval windmills ground grain — today, giant **wind turbines** use the same idea to make electricity! Old inventions grow into new ones. Today you will hunt for medieval inventions in your own home.

Reading Questions

1. Name two medieval inventions you can find in a home today.

2. What do modern wind turbines make?

3. How are wind turbines like medieval windmills?

Invention Scavenger Hunt

Hunt around your house! Find things that started as medieval inventions. Check off each one you find and write where you found it.

Medieval invention	Found it! Where?
A clock	
Eyeglasses	
A printed book	
Buttons on clothing	
A wheelbarrow or cart	

True or False

Write T for true or F for false in each circle.

- ☐ Eyeglasses were invented in the Middle Ages.
- ☐ Wind turbines use the same idea as windmills.
- ☐ Buttons are a brand-new invention.
- ☐ Printed books exist because of the printing press.
- ☐ Old inventions can grow into new ones.
- ☐ Mechanical clocks began in medieval towers.

Think About It

1. Which medieval invention do you use the most? How does it help you?

2. Pick one thing in your house. How might kids 500 years from now use a better version of it?

Fill in the Blanks

eyeglasses

clocks

turbines

buttons

books

1. _____ help people see better — a medieval invention!
2. Mechanical _____ first rang bells in medieval towers.
3. Wind _____ today make electricity like windmills made flour.
4. _____ on coats were a medieval idea.
5. Printed _____ spread ideas around the world.

Review

I learned...	Circle one
Medieval inventions I use today	YES / NOT YET
How old inventions grow into new ones	YES / NOT YET
Where to find history in my own home	YES / NOT YET