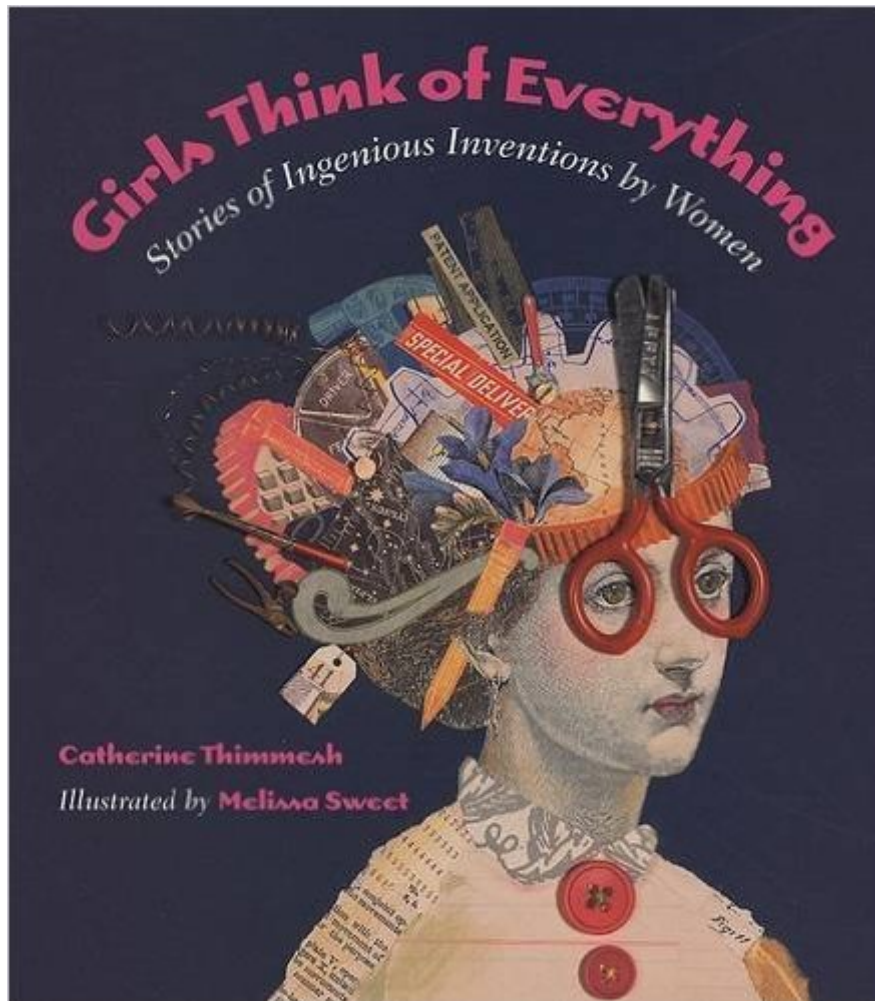


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# Girls Think Of Everything: Stories Of Ingenious Inventions By Women



## Synopsis

In kitchens and living rooms, in garages and labs and basements, even in converted chicken coops, women and girls have invented ingenious innovations that have made our lives simpler and better. Their creations are some of the most enduring (the windshield wiper) and best loved (the chocolate chip cookie). What inspired these women, and just how did they turn their ideas into realities? Features women inventors Ruth Wakefield, Mary Anderson, Stephanie Kwolek, Bette Nesmith Graham, Patsy O. Sherman, Ann Moore, Grace Murray Hopper, Margaret E. Knight, Jeanne Lee Crews, and Valerie L. Thomas, as well as young inventors ten-year-old Becky Schroeder and eleven-year-old Alexia Abernathy. Illustrated in vibrant collage by Caldecott Honor artist Melissa Sweet.

## Book Information

Paperback: 64 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (184 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Girls Think of Everything is truly captivating. The "Stories of Ingenious Inventions by Women" are told in a manner which will delight the target audience. The writing is crisp, interesting and sophisticated and will hold the interest of bright children and interested adults alike; while at the same time, the stories are quite accessible for even younger children. The book is not a dry compilation of biographies of inventors or a boring recitals of the history of various inventions; but, instead, an ingenious approach to telling important (and fun) "Stories of Ingenious Inventions by Women."

The inspiring nuggets of information in Catherine Thimmesh's book have my mind racing--do I have an invention lurking somewhere inside of me? The author's concise, information-packed, yet fun narrative will intrigue children and adults alike, many of whom will turn page after page saying, "I never knew that!" Judging from the chronology of inventions on the endpapers, Ms. Thimmesh has many more stories to tell, and I can't wait to read them. Melissa Sweet's collage illustrations are the perfect complement, fascinating in their detail and ingenious in the textures and materials she chooses. I've already bought several copies of this book; one to keep and others to give as gifts. I can think of many children who will pore over this book with great interest.

This book goes a long way towards encouraging girls (and women!) to put their creative powers to practical use. It is so gratifying to learn that many everyday items (ice cream cones; Toll House cookies) were invented by women. And the items that are not so 'everyday' (Kevlar; space shields) have such a positive impact on the world around us. The illustrations are wonderfully creative, blending the fascinating details of the text into whimsical collages. Don't forget the sidebars - lots of fun facts there as well.

This book was the best book I have read so far on my summer reading book list. It was very interesting to me. It is the best subject to write a book on. I had the best time reading it. I think that people could have more confidence to invent something after reading this book, even men.

I purchased this for my niece and my friend's daughter. It advertised age 8-12 as the target audience. I would say stay close to age 8 and unless you have a delayed reader, this is too young for a tween.

I was expecting to read about Maria Curie or Lisa Meitner. Instead it was a book about seems ordinary women (and girls!) who contributed in very practical fields like inventing windshield wipers, snugli, computer compilers or chocolate chip cookies. The book explains well that women had to go through much more hardship than men to be able to go through the experimental phase of their inventions. For instance Patsy O. Sherman who invented the Scotchguard was not even allowed in the textile mills.... to supervise the product production.

Very short descriptions of inventions. Chocolate chip cookies as an invention falls short of what we

were expecting to find in this book. My daughter looked through it once, declared it 'boring' and hasn't picked it up since. This is a child who has read books with a great deal of factual content multiple times. Had I been able to look through the book prior to purchase, I wouldn't have bought it.

A fascinating collection with just the right tone. And Melissa Sweet's inventive illustrations will inspire creative thinking by future inventors!

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