

## Teenage Inventors

It is never too early to start changing the world. These young people decided to do something to change the world in a positive way.



**Rifath Shaarook**, from India, was the son of a local scientist. He was interested in the skies from a young age. At just 18 years old, he and his friends invented **KalamSat**, the world's lightest satellite. It weighed just 64 grams. It could be launched much more cheaply than regular satellites and was used to do science tests in space.

**Hannah Herbst**, from the USA, invented the **Beacon**, an easily made water turbine, at the age of 15. She had a pen friend in Ethiopia who didn't have electricity in her house, so Hannah decided to make something to help her. Hannah's invention could be used in the ocean or a big river to make power for poor homes at a low cost.



**Lalita Srisai**, from India, built a **water filter** using old corn cobs. Many poor people in India don't have clean water, but there is a lot of corn. Lalita began testing her ideas when she was just 11 years old. When she was a child, a lot of old corn was seen by the roadside, so she used it to make a special water filter. It cleans about 80% of bad chemicals and bacteria from the water, and is very cheap.

### True or False

- |                                                     |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Rifath Shaarook was the son of a local farmer.   | T / F |
| 2. KalamSat weighed just 64 grams.                  | T / F |
| 3. Hannah Herbst had a pen friend in Ethiopia.      | T / F |
| 4. Hannah's invention needs water to work.          | T / F |
| 5. Lalita Srisai used rice to build a water filter. | T / F |
| 6. The water filter costs a lot of money.           | T / F |



### Questions

1. What was the KalamSat used to do? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Why did Hannah decide to invent something? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Where could Hannah's invention be used? \_\_\_\_\_
4. When did Lalita begin testing her ideas? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What was seen by the roadside in India? \_\_\_\_\_

What do you think? Which of the three inventions – the mini satellite, the water turbine, the water filter – is the best, and why?

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