New Jersey Inventors and Inventions Unit
Understanding
Invention vs. Discovery
Objective: Today we will differentiate between a discovery and an invention

Before we start, let’s think...

What is an invention?
Why do people invent things?
What do we know about inventions?
What are some inventions we use often?
Vocabulary

discovery
invention
inventor
efficient
innovation
artifact
exhibit
Let’s sort the words below into these two categories.

**invention**
- telephone
- computer
- light bulb

**discovery**
- dinosaur bones
- penicillin
- electricity
- diamonds
- car
- machine
- gravity
invention
telephone
car
machine
discovery
dinosaur bones
diamonds
gravity
penicillin
electricity

How did you do?
What is an invention?

An invention is something brand new or created.

What is a discovery?

A discovery is something that already exists in nature.