

What's happening in the news this week?



Dhruv Chaudhary, Mithran Ladhania, and Mridul Jain

Let's have a look at this week's poster!

12th - 18th May 2025



**What everyday items could be
changed to help others?**



Let's look at this week's story

Three teenagers from Indore, India – Dhruv Chaudhary, Mithran Ladhania, and Mridul Jain – have created a salt-powered fridge. Their goal is to support hospitals in rural areas around the world that lack access to electricity. Their invention, called the Thermavault, was submitted to The Earth Prize, a global competition which aims to inspire young people to solve world-wide problems.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



How does it make me feel?



sad

despondent
disconsolate
dismal
doleful
downhearted
forlorn
gloomy
melancholic
miserable
woeful
wretched

angry

aggrieved
annoyed
discontented
disgruntled
distressed
exasperated
frustrated
indignant
offended
outraged
resentful
vexed

happy

beaming
buoyant
cheery
contented
delighted
enraptured
gleeful
glowing
joyful

confused

addled
baffled
bemused
bewildered
disorientated
indistinct
muddled
mystified
perplexed
puzzled

excited

animated
elevated
enlivened
enthusiastic
exhilarated
exuberant
thrilled

worried

agitated
anxious
apprehensive
concerned
disquieted
distraught
distressed
disturbed
fretful
perturbed
troubled
uneasy

overwhelmed

engulfed
inundated
overburdened
overloaded
saturated
submerged
swamped

afraid

alarmed
apprehensive
daunted
fearful
frantic
horrified
petrified
terrified

guilty

ashamed
compunctious
contrite
culpable
penitent
responsible
rueful

jealous

bitter
covetous
desirous
envious
envying
resentful
wary

thankful

appreciative
grateful
gratified
indebted
obliged
relieved

shocked

astonished
astounded
disconcerted
distressed
dumbfounded
horrified
staggered
startled
stunned
surprised

disgusted

affronted
appalled
horrified
repelled
repulsed
revolted
sickened

inspired

activated
encouraged
exhilarated
galvanised
influenced
motivated

embarrassed

ashamed
awkward
chagrined
demeaned
discomposd
humiliated
self-conscious
uncomfortable
uneasy
unsettled

interested

absorbed
captivated
curious
engaged
enthralled
fascinated
gripped
intrigued
riveted

This week's story looks at events related to ...





Read the information found below, all about the new Thermavault invention.

What is the Thermavault and how does it work?

The Thermavault is a specially-designed fridge, that uses salt to naturally create a cold environment. It doesn't need another power source to make it work.

It allows whatever is inside to remain cold, such as food or medications, without the use of electricity. This is very important for villages and hospitals in rural areas, far away from cities, where there might not be access to power or electricity.

What did the Thermavault win?

The Thermavault won a regional 2025 Earth Prize, with a \$12,500 (£9,300) reward, which will be used to help test and create more units.

The Thermavault has already been tested in local hospitals, and 200 more are in the process of being assembled.



Source: Dhruv Chaudhary, Mithran Ladhania and Mridul Jain.



The three teen inventors behind the salt-powered fridge: Dhruv Chaudhary, Mithran Ladhania and Mridul Jain.

"The COVID-19 pandemic served as a reminder of the lack of electricity availability in rural areas; we've seen, firsthand, the problems with transporting vaccines, food and essential supplies to these locations. Thus, we redesigned our science-fair cooling system into our solution."

Dhruv Chaudhary, Mithran Ladhania and Mridul Jain's comments, shared on The Earth Prize website following their win.

Share your thoughts on it and discuss who will benefit from its creation.

Resource one



Look at the resource below, which shares some examples of inventions that have made our lives easier!



A watch helps us to tell the time quickly!

A toothbrush helps to keep our teeth clean and healthy every day.



A lightbulb helps us to see easily in the dark.



A washing machine helps to clean our clothes, so we don't have to clean them by hand.



A backpack helps us to carry things without using our hands.



Reflection

There are many inventions that have made our lives easier and more comfortable. It is thanks to these clever ideas that we can do things faster, more safely and with less effort!

Have you used any of these things today? What would you do without these inventions?



Look at the resource below, which shares more information about The Earth Prize.

Meet The Earth Prize

– a global competition for young changemakers!

The Earth Prize is an international competition for people aged 13–19. It encourages students from all around the world to come up with creative ideas, to help the environment and solve real problems.

The prize was launched by The Earth Foundation in Geneva, Switzerland, and it's more than just a competition – it offers learning, mentorship, and global recognition.



Why is it important?

- It shows that young people's **ideas matter**.
- It helps teenagers make a **real difference** in the world.
- It **creates opportunities** for young inventors, like the team who created the Thermavault fridge.



How it works:

Students enter as individuals or in teams with a new idea to tackle an environmental issue.

They receive guidance and mentorship from university students to help develop their idea.

They get access to special learning materials to grow their knowledge.

Finalists present their ideas to experts and could win prize money to develop their project!

Reflection

Young people have the power to create change – by working together, sharing ideas, and believing their voices and inventions matter.

What message do you take away from learning about The Earth Prize?



**What everyday items could be
changed to help others?**

Reflection



Often, the best ideas come from thinking differently. It doesn't matter how old you are, your ideas can make the world a better place.



Media Literacy

Are the facts in this story accurate?



Explanation: Let's consider the information provided in this week's story, and how we can verify it.



Analyse



Evaluate



Research



Act

Questions to Discuss

- What do we mean when we say something is a fact?
- How do you know if those facts are accurate?
- Why is it important for news stories to be based on accurate information?

Reflection

How does checking the facts in a story help us understand what's real and what we can trust?

Activity

Pick two or three key facts from this week's story.

- Can you find these facts in another source?
- Do both sources say the same thing?
- If they don't match, which one do you think is more reliable and why?



Mutual Respect & Tolerance

By learning about issues in our world,
we can identify people in need and
work together to think of and create
solutions.

Protected Characteristics



Young people should be listened to and taken seriously, as their ideas can make a positive impact on the world. We all deserve to be heard, no matter our age.



Sex



Sexual
Orientation



Age



Disability



Gender
Reassignment



Marriage and
Civil Partnership



Pregnancy
and Maternity



Race



Religion
or Belief



UN Rights of the Child



All children have the right to live a healthy life. By helping to realise young people's ideas and inventions, like the Thermavault, organisations can play their part in supporting this right.



Useful Vocabulary



Assembled

When things are put together to make something.

The Thermavault has already been tested in local hospitals, and 200 more are in the process of being **assembled**.

Cold environment

A place that is chilly or freezing, where the temperature is low and things can be kept very cold, like in a fridge or a freezer.

The Thermavault is a specially-designed fridge that uses salt to naturally create a **cold environment**.

Lack access

When you do not have something you need or are not able to get to it.

Their goal is to support hospitals in rural areas around the world that **lack access** to electricity.

Power source

Something that gives energy to make things work, such as a battery for a toy or electricity for lights and fridges.

It doesn't need another **power source** to make it work.

Rural areas

Places that are far away from big cities.

Their goal is to support hospitals in **rural areas** around the world that lack access to electricity.

Units

An individual version of a device or product. E.g., the Thermavault.

The Thermavault won a regional 2025 Earth Prize, with a £10,000 reward, which will be used to help test and create more **units**.

Can you use them in your writing this week?

Picture News



What everyday items could be changed to help others?

Three teenagers from Indore, India – Dhruv Chaudhary, Mithran Ladhania, and Mridul Jain – have created a salt-powered fridge. Their goal is to support hospitals in rural areas around the world that lack access to electricity. Their invention, called the Thermavault, was submitted to The Earth Prize, a global competition which aims to inspire young people to solve world-wide problems.



- Look at this week's poster and make a prediction about what you think the box could be for, and what this week's news story might be about.
- Read the information found on the assembly resource, all about the new fridge invention. Share your thoughts on it and discuss who will benefit from its creation.
- What is your definition of an inventor? Do you believe inventors can be any age? Explain your thoughts.
- The Earth Prize is a competition for young people, and recognises students who develop the best solutions to help with positive change in the world. Do you know of any examples where young people have made a difference, or have done something that has had a lasting, positive impact? What about within your local area or around the world?
- Reflect on your daily routine – are there any inventions that have made your life easier or better? How about inventions that have helped you or the lives of those around you?

Reflection

Often, the best ideas come from thinking differently. It doesn't matter how old you are, your ideas can make the world a better place.

Picture News



KS1 focus

What other inventions have made our lives easier?



- What do you think the word 'invention' means? An invention is something new that someone creates to solve a problem or make life easier.
- Reflect on your morning routine. What are some of the things you use or do that help to make your life easier? E.g., turning on the lights, washing your face with a flannel and warm water from the tap, using soap, brushing your teeth with a toothbrush, pouring milk from a carton that has been kept cool in the fridge etc. All these things are inventions that have been created to make our everyday lives easier.
- Look at resource 1, which shares some inventions that make our lives easier. Have you used all these things before?
- Look at each item in turn. Why do they make life easier? How do they help you or your family to do things faster or better? What would you do if you didn't have this item?
- Can you think of any other inventions that help to make our everyday lives easier?
- Is there something in your life you feel would be hard to live without? Why?
- Is there a way to improve any of the things listed in resource 1 that would make our lives even easier?

Reflection

There are many inventions that have made our lives easier and more comfortable. It is thanks to these clever ideas that we can do things faster, more safely and with less effort!

Picture News



KS2 focus

What is The Earth Prize for teenagers?



- Have you ever taken part in a competition before? What was it for, and how did it go? Think about how it felt to share your ideas or skills with others.
- The Earth Prize is all about solving real problems. Can you think of a challenge in your school, local area, or the wider world that you'd like to help with?
- Look at resource 2, which shares more information about The Earth Prize. What new things have you learned from it?
- Teenagers who enter The Earth Prize are supported by mentors. What does it mean to be a mentor, and how could a mentor help someone develop their idea?
- Working with others can help turn a small idea into something bigger. How might sharing ideas and asking for help make a difference?
- You don't have to be an expert to come up with a brilliant idea! What qualities do you think make a good inventor? Think about things like curiosity, creativity, determination, and a desire to help others.
- Some people care deeply about nature, animals, or the planet. What cause would you most want to focus on if you were taking part in a competition like this?
- Reading about this prize helps us realise that age doesn't limit our impact. Why is it important that young people's ideas are listened to and taken seriously?

Reflection

Young people have the power to create change – by working together, sharing ideas, and believing their voices and inventions matter.



KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Become a researcher and discover inventions that have made an impact on the world we live in! Use books or the internet to find a project or invention. Find out what problem the inventors tried to solve, what they created, and why it's important.

You could create a mini poster or presentation to share what you've learned. Include the name(s) of the inventors, a picture or drawing of their invention, and a short summary in your own words.

Don't forget to share or display your work, so others can be inspired by all the amazing ideas and inventions out there!

Option 2

Channel your inner innovator and come up with an idea or invention that could help the planet! Think about:

- A problem that matters to you - maybe it's something to do with pollution, endangered animals, or saving water.
- Draw a picture of your invention and give it a name.
- Write a short explanation to describe what your invention does, how it works, and who or what it helps.

Be as creative and imaginative as you like - even wild ideas can lead to real change!



KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Let's play a game of would you rather! Below are some funny situations that include inventions, which make our lives easier. With a partner or as a class, answer the questions below and share your reasons why you made your choice!

- Would you rather live without a fridge or a microwave?
- Would you rather wear sandals in the snow or winter boots in the summer?
- Would you rather eat your lunch without a fork/spoon or without a plate?
- Would you rather always be late because you have no watch/clock or always arrive on the wrong date because you don't have a calendar?
- Would you rather have a bike with square shaped wheels or have a backpack that is the same size as you are?

Can you think of any more fun questions? Please share any that you think of via social media or email help@picture-news.co.uk

Option 2

Invention charades. Let's have fun with some of the inventions we've learned about!

- As a class, make a list of some inventions that help make our lives easier (e.g., toothbrush, fan, fridge, telephone, backpack, light bulb, umbrella, microwave etc).
- One at a time, volunteers should choose an invention from the list and act out how it's used - but no talking is allowed!
- Can the rest of the class guess what invention it is, based on the actions?



This week's useful websites

This week's news story

www.goodnewsnetwork.org/teens-win-2025-earth-prize-for-refrigerator-that-runs-on-salt-200-headed-to-hospitals-for-chilling-medicine/

This week's useful video

What is the Thermavault fridge?
www.theearthprize.org/regional-winners?team=thermavault#teams

This week's Virtual Picture News

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This week's vocabulary

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Fur-st Day of School

Some schools have a very special helper... with four paws and a waggy tail! The National School Dog Alliance is running a competition to find the UK's School Dog of the Year 2025. Many schools across the country have dogs who visit or live at school, to help children feel calm and happy. There are different types of school dog. Some only visit for a short time. They might come with a charity or a special helper. Other dogs live at the school all year, because they belong to a teacher or



Pictured: A dog studying the 'bones' of maths.
Source: Canva.

staff member. Studies show that having dogs in school can help children feel better. They can also help if someone feels nervous or upset. Some children even read stories to their school dog, to help build their confidence.

Do you have a dog or another animal at your school? What do they do? Are they funny, helpful, or just very cuddly?



Pictured: A dog getting ready for his 'fur-st' day of school. **Source:** Canva.

Balloons Over Bristol

Some lucky schools in Bristol might get a very special visitor, a hot air balloon! The Schools Tether Roadshow is giving schools in the Bristol area the chance to host a balloon right in their playground. The balloon won't fly away but will be safely tied to the ground, so children can see it up close. It's part of the Bristol International Balloon Fiesta, the biggest balloon festival in Europe! Every August, hundreds of hot air balloons float over the city, and many people come to watch. Now, children can learn all about how hot air balloons work, meet real balloon



Pictured: Hot air balloons flying in the sky!
Source: Bristol International Balloon Fiesta on Facebook.

pilots, and find out about the science and teamwork behind flying. 'We can't wait to inspire the balloonists and engineers of the future,' said Ben Hardy, the fiesta's executive director. He also said the roadshow aims to capture the imagination of children, teachers and parents alike. **Would you like to take a ride in a hot air balloon?**

Whose job is it to keep our local places clean and tidy?



I think that it should be everyone's responsibility because it will help our environment so we won't be breathing in toxins ... if we don't clean up our mess then animals could get stuck or birds might eat glass and we don't want that. **Minnie**

Let us know what you think about this week's news



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@HelpPicture

Windows of Opportunity

Teachers and staff have confirmed that adding 70 windows to a school in Illinois, USA, has improved students' wellbeing and performance. Funding from glass cleaner producer, Windex, through their 'Windows of Opportunity' programme, has enabled Eisenhower Elementary to introduce much more natural light to their classrooms. Some schools built in the 1970s were made without many windows on purpose, because it was believed that this would reduce distractions and help students focus better and learn more! Many people, including staff, at Eisenhower Elementary School now believe the opposite



Pictured: Before and after pictures of Eisenhower Elementary School. **Source:** Windows of Opportunity / Windex on YouTube.



Pictured: Teacher and pupils in a classroom with large windows. **Source:** Canva.

to be true. School psychologist, Amanda Howell, explained how things at school have improved, 'What we have been finding is that it really has increased their moods. In general, we see much more positive attitudes. Absence rate also is decreasing.' Principal at the school, Tim Chipman, said, 'To look up, look out, see a tree, a cloud, snow falling, gives them the inspiration they need to keep learning.'

Are you surprised by these findings?

Do you prefer natural or artificial light?

No Slowing at Ninety

90-year-old, Barby Keel, has helped over 10,000 animals at her animal sanctuary in Sussex, UK. She opened the Barby Keel Animal Sanctuary in 1979, and is still working hard today – with no plans to slow down or retire! She began with just three animals - two dogs and a bushbaby. Barby explained how her charity grew, 'Before long I had about 40 cats, and started taking in farm animals like sheep, cows, pigs, and goats.' There are now more than 600 rescued creatures being cared for, including 160 cats, 16 pigs, 8 dogs, 6 horses, 100 chickens and 80 rabbits. Barby has 14 volunteers to help her run the sanctuary. Some of the animals are re-homed, but the majority live out their days on Barby's 12-acre plot. It isn't always easy as she goes on to explain, 'I'm always told that I don't seem like



Pictured: Barby Keel at her animal sanctuary. **Source:** Barby Keel Animal Sanctuary (Registered Charity No. 1095382) on Facebook.

I'm 90 years old. Hard work and a breakfast of beans every morning keeps me going. Some days I am shattered, it's hard work. But then I get a little nose 'boop' or a face peers up at me, and I remember why I'm doing this. I don't have plans to stop any day soon. My animals come first and always will.'

Have you ever visited an animal sanctuary? How can we help animals that don't have a loving home?

Whose job is it to keep our local places clean and tidy?



Everyone because people should be helpful and pick up litter but the bin people also need to help since that is their job.

Joshua

Let us know what you think about this week's news



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TAKEHOME

12th - 18th May



In the news this week

Three teenagers from Indore, India – Dhruv Chaudhary, Mithran Ladhania, and Mridul Jain – have created a salt-powered fridge. Their goal is to support hospitals in rural areas around the world that lack access to electricity. Their invention, called the Thermavault, was submitted to The Earth Prize, a global competition which aims to inspire young people to solve world-wide problems.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Share your thoughts on the new fridge invention. Who do you believe will benefit most from it?
- > Make a list of everyday items at home. Which make your life easier?
- > Can you think of an item you use that could be improved? How?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

What everyday items could be changed to help others?

Dhruv Chaudhary, Mithran Ladhania, and Mridul Jain

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

