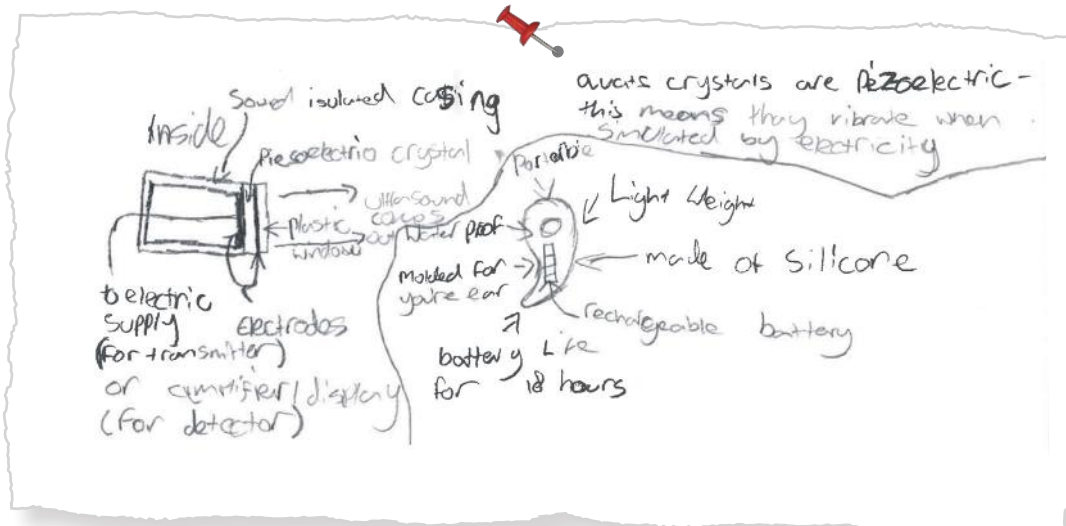




IF YOU WERE AN ENGINEER – WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

London, Year 7 Award Winner



Name:

Christos Foti

Gender:

Male

School Name:

Bishop Thomas Grant Catholic Secondary School

Year Group:

Year 7

Which engineer inspired you?

Laura Schofield

What company does your engineer work for?

Tideway

Dear Sir or Madam,

My invention is called Tactical Eyes because it enables visually impaired people to have awareness that helps them sense hazards and dangers. It's made out of silicone and has a small rechargeable battery that can be charged using a USB cable and fits in the ear just like an earpiece. The sound goes straight into the ear so that only the visually impaired person can hear it. There is also a version for deaf and visually impaired people that uses vibration to warn of hazards.

I was inspired to invent something to help people who are unable to see hazards around them because they are visually impaired. I saw a man who had a white cane who was walking down the street and he hit his head on a low branch. I think my invention will be revolutionary because it solves the problem for visually impaired people who hit their heads on objects such as low hanging branches, door frames and road signs. This idea is based on how cars use ultrasonic sensors to reverse park. They use ultrasonic waves to avoid hitting other cars or objects when they reverse. Based on this idea I have designed an invention that enables visually impaired people to not bang their heads on head high objects. A clip is worn on your clothing that uses ultrasonic waves to pick up any possible hazards for the top half of your body. The beeping sounds gets closer together when the person comes too close to hazard just like a reversing car sensing an obstacle. In the UK alone there are over 2 million visually impaired people who can benefit from this invention to make it safer and allow them more independence. I think my idea should be made a prototype because it will enable visually impaired people to gain more confidence and protect them from hazards in their environment.

I enjoyed learning about engineering in my science lesson and inventing this idea to help visually impaired people.

Yours sincerely,

christos

