

# Museum Mystery: “The Case of the Inventor's Advice”



*Chris N. Ventor has a mystery to solve and needs your help. Chris is a young inventor with many ideas for new inventions. Whenever he tries to put some of his great ideas to work—to invent something new and useful—the inventions won't work the way Chris thought they would.*

*Chris' teacher Pat Tent offered some mysterious advice in a language Chris didn't understand. "Did you say I'm supposed to add aspirin?" Chris asked, more confused than ever. Pat merely smiled, jotted down some clues, and handed them to Chris. "The secret to successful inventing may be learned from other inventors," Pat said. "Look to them for clues to help you."*

These clues refer to inventions in the Main Gallery of the Kansas Museum of History in Topeka. If you are planning a visit, you might want to print these pages and bring them with you to the museum.

Each blank \_ is one letter of a word. For each clue, fill in the blanks with the correct inventions described, using the *Hints* to help you. The numbers below some of the blanks are code: write the letter that you filled in above each number into the blank in “**The Inventor's Advice**” that has the same number. **Good luck!**

The Inventor's Advice was:

                                         
15 11      4 7 3 9 1

                                                   
10 6 14      13 8 5 12 2 16



Museum Mystery:  
“The Case of the Inventor's Advice”



1. Spanish soldiers wore suits of armor made from this invention. (*Hint: Inside Early Peoples case*)

C H A I N    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
          15                   1

2. Wichita Indians used this invention made of bone to tie bundles of thatch to the wooden frames of their lodges. (*Hint: Near Grass Lodge*)

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_    N E E D L E  
          2 16                                   11

3. Pawnee Indians played ceremonial music and love songs on this invention. (*Hint: Inside Pawnee case*)

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
                          3

4. Families traveling the Oregon Trail used this invention to fix a broken wheel on their covered wagon. (*Hint: Near the front of the Covered Wagon*)

W A G O N    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
                                  4



Museum Mystery:  
“The Case of the Inventor's Advice”



5. This invention was a handy way to carry the time. (*Hint: Settlement section*)

\_\_\_\_\_ **W A T C H** \_\_\_\_\_  
5

6. This cast-iron invention heated both the house and the family meal. (*Hint: Inside Log House*)

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
6

7. Made from melted bottles, this invention clearly kept dirt and snow from coming into the house. (*Hint: Inside Log House*)

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ **P A N E** \_\_\_\_\_  
13 7

8. This invention helped keep Victorian-era rugs clean. (*Hint: Inside Victorian case*)

**C A R P E T** \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
8 14



Museum Mystery:  
“The Case of the Inventor's Advice”



9. A dog could power this treadmill invention, which produced a spread for bread.  
(Hint: Inside Victorian case)

<b>B</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>R</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____
					<b>12</b>			<b>9</b>	

10. This invention with the big brass bell played music records. (Hint: Inside Victorian case)

\_\_\_\_\_

**10**

