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from:	engineeringadventures@mos.org
to:	You
subject:	What is Technology?

11:23 AM

Hi engineers,

You did a great job engineering a tower to display the stuffed animal so lots of people could see it! Now you're ready to help us engineer even more technologies.
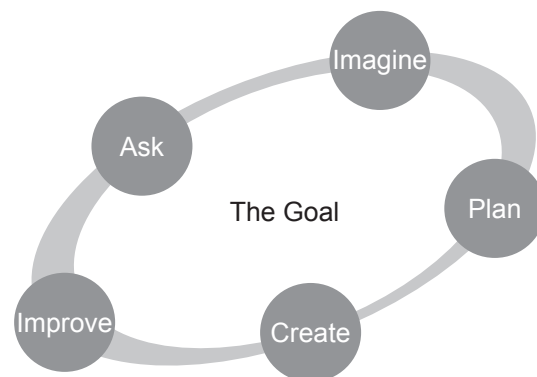
Do you know that the things engineers design to solve problems are called technologies? Most people think technologies have to be electronic, but this isn't true. A technology is actually anything engineered by a person that solves a problem.

Think about an airplane as an example. An airplane is a technology because people engineered it and it solves the problem of needing to travel long distances quickly. But something as simple as a paper cup is also a technology. A person engineered it, and it helps people hold drinks without spilling them everywhere.

We have some more challenges for you today. Can you use the Engineering Design Process to engineer technologies to solve the problems we sent?

Good luck!

India and Jacob

Imagine

Ask

The Goal

Plan

Improve

Create

Which Problem Will You Help Solve?

<u>Send a message</u>	<u>Water a plant</u>
The space shuttle commander needs to send a message to an astronaut floating 15 feet away.	An astronaut needs to move water from a container to a plant on the International Space Station (ISS).
<u>Carry pens and pencils</u>	<u>Protect an astronaut</u>
An aerospace technician needs to carry pens and pencils across the spacecraft.	An astronaut needs to be protected from a dust storm on Mars.

You're an engineer!
What can you engineer to solve this problem?

Reflect: Think about what you designed . . .

Did a person engineer it?

☐ Yes   ☐ No

Does it help you solve a problem?

☐ Yes   ☐ No

If you answered YES to both questions, it is a technology!