

5 (or so) sites & 10 videos

Welcome to the Future

Read this column online, with links, at www.littleclickers.com/future

Our friend Alan Kay is fond of saying *"The best way to predict the future is to invent it."* No where is this more true than the CES show, held each January in Las Vegas. Here are five cool inventions we spotted that help us better understand what lies ahead.



1. A flying electric schoolbus. Well sort of. Thanks to avances in drone-like multi-rotor technologies, not to mention stronger batteries and GPS navigation, we're only a few years away from flying shuttles that can take off and land in a driveway or parking lot. Learn more about the Bell Nexus, at <http://www.bellflight.com/company/innovation/nexus>

2. Airbag for riding your bike. Everyone knows -- it's no fun to fall off a bike. What there were a special jacket with sensors that could tell if you were falling, and fill up with air right before impact? Learn more about this technology, at <http://bitly.com/2DbOECp>.

3. Language translator earpiece Waverly Labs displayed an earpiece for pilots that allows them to understand an interpret up to 15 languages in real time -- using speech recognition. The cool thing is that we spotted several models. Soon we'll all be able to afford them. Learn more at <http://bitly.com/2DfcCwG>

4. A bluetooth solar beehive. The CoCoon behife <https://www.beelife.fr> uses solar power and heat or cool a beehive as sensors monitor the conditions inside. You can get an alert on your phone if something is needed. Now that's sweet!

5. Self-powered Emergency Signal Device. Developed by Hanyang University, this floating signal device produces it's own electricity using the movement of the waves, so that it's LED light will never go out. Learn more about the Korean inventor, at <http://bitly.com/2DeGHwE>

LittleClickers is brought to you by Computer Explorers, who offer camps on programming. Visit www.computerexplorers.com to learn more. The web-based (html) version of this page is at <http://www.littleclickers.com> with live links, plus a place to report any errors. Note that CTR and COMPUTER EXPLORERS do not have commercial interests in the sites listed on this page. Librarians and teachers are permitted to copy this page for non-profit use. To suggest a future topic, or to report a bad link, please contact the editor, Warren Buckleitner [WB] warren@childrenstech.com or call 908-284-0404 (9 - 3 PM, EST). Thanks to Dr. Ellen Wolock for her help with this issue of LittleClickers.



Select Color

Pearl White Multi-Coat

Select Wheels

APPLICATION: Design your own Tesla

Few cars have more futuristic than the all-electric, mostly self driving Tesla. Visit <http://bitly.com/2SxQmIa> where you can design your car using a series of options that include engine power, color, wheels and electronics. As you select each option, the price changes automatically, and you can see how much your monthly payments would be. Just don't click "buy." Your parents might get mad.

Welcome to the Future on YouTube

Want more? Here's a video playlist that

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcBVHzUUEKwmBohkXsv2beEIPjl0s-V5F>

