Hey Kids...Guess What?

Biomimicry is the art, skill, intuition and science of turning towards nature as inspiration for solving human problems or dilemmas. Nature has millions of years on us in perfecting forms and systems. The field of biomimicry has already yielded hundreds of solutions. Take a look!

**Photovoltaics**
A method of generating electrical power by converting solar radiation into direct current electricity using semiconductors. Solar cells are commonly used in remote locations where cost-effective access to local power grids is not possible.

**Sharkskin**
Sharkskin is made up of countless overlapping scales which have grooves running down their length in alignment with water flow. It makes the water pass by faster and discourages bacteria. Scientists have been able to replicate it for swimsuits and the bottom of boats.

**Velcro™**
This story begins with a hike in the Swiss woods in 1948. Inventor George de Mestral noticed that he and his dog were coated with cockleburr seed casings. Under a microscope, de Mestral discovered that the seed casings contained numerous tips with hook-shaped ends. It was these natural hooks which clung so stubbornly to the loose weave of his pants and the dog's fur. He believed that a fastening device made from a similar hook and loop design could rival the metal zipper in popularity and versatility.