



INVENTOR & MAKER OF THE WEEK

Hannah Herbst

YOUNG ENGINEER & INVENTOR

Hannah Herbst was born in 2000 in Florida, USA. When she was 12, she went to a summer engineering camp where she found she was the only girl! By the end of the week her team had won the competition and that sparked her love for engineering.

Around the same time, Hannah was writing to her pen pal, Ruth, who lived in Ethiopia. Ruth had no lights or steady flow of fresh water – something Hannah had never had to think about before.

Hannah decided to try to help. At 14 years old, she invented a device called BEACON – Bringing Electricity Access to Countries through Ocean Energy. It was a turbine that sits in the ocean and turns the movement of the water into electricity. It also helped provide fresh water too.

BEACON won Hannah the title of America's Top Young Scientist in 2015 and a \$25,000 prize. She has won lots of other awards too and is now studying at university and investigating using shark skin to help in medicine.

Hannah has always wanted to show other girls that engineering is for them too!

