

Try this!

One of my favorite parts of writing is inventing names for characters and objects in the worlds I create. I once named a turtle (who was four feet wide and lived inside) Sir Howard Harvey Beauregard Garvey. Everyone called him BG, for short. Isn't that hilarious? Anyway, I love naming. It can be tricky, but when it's right it always makes me smile. 😊

Just for fun, try inventing and naming the items below:

1. **A new explosive** that Fiona and McClane might use. Be sure to describe the explosive—what it looks like (shape, texture, color), what it's made of, how it smells, sounds, etc. Is it deadly, or just a distraction? Is it stable, or extremely sensitive? I like to make the name connect with the object I'm describing, but it's up to you! Use your imagination and have fun!
2. **A new creature** for Fiona and Manzy to meet in Amryn. I wanted Fiona to encounter a little creature under the castle that would help pull her through the cave, so I came up with Cave Bodkins. My bodkins are small, scaly creatures with big, bright eyes usually found in damp, underground areas. They are very social and are known for snaking their way through tight spots. In real life, a bodkin is a needle used to pull thread through a hole.

Your turn! Invent a new creature with characteristics, habitat, likes, dislikes, food and shelter needs, and then give it a fantastic name.

Have fun, and if you want, [email me](mailto:jbartonbooks.com) your brilliant creations! I'd love to see what you invented. 😊

