

Hey Rebels! Each month, we celebrate a different trait that we admire in Rebel Girls around the world. This month, we've chosen to highlight determination by celebrating four determined women who have set their sights on impressive goals and have—with creativity, ingenuity, leadership, and elbow grease—reached them.

## TINKER WITH A TOY

In 1879, Margarete Steiff stumbled across the pattern for a stuffed elephant in a magazine and set about building one. She planned to use her creation as a pincushion. As soon as kids spotted the elephant, they wanted to play! Soon Margarete was assembling all sorts of adorable stuffed animals, including the first-ever teddy bears with moveable arms and legs.

Think of a toy you like to play with—or one you liked when you were younger. How could you make it better? What could you add or change to make the toy even cooler? Draw your exciting new design. Then write up a pitch to explain why your toy is an improvement.

## EMPOWER OTHERS

María Teresa Kumar's goal is maximum participation by people in government. First she helps register voters. Then she encourages them to exercise their right to vote so their voices can be heard. How can you share the message about the importance of voting? Can you help people in your community register to vote? Brainstorm as many ideas as you can. Choose one. Like María does with her big goals, break your idea up into smaller steps and make a plan. Write a to-do list and make your voter drive happen.

## SPREAD THE WORD

When a designer, engineer, or inventor starts their own company, they often need to learn new skills. They need to know how to speak about their product, service, or mission in a way that gets customers and investors excited. Let's practice!

The weather balloons that Paige Brown and her colleagues have created are extra cool. They are designed to fly for much longer than other balloons, so they can soar over oceans and vast regions of uninhabited land. They collect information that can help scientists predict and eventually eliminate the danger posed by extreme weather events brought on by climate change.

Imagine you are on the team that is spreading the word about these cutting-edge weather balloons. What slogans would you use to describe your company, your balloons, and your mission?

## INCLUDE EVERYONE

Rihanna created her wildly successful company Fenty Beauty after years of trying different types of makeup and being disappointed by the quality and variety of products on the market. She says, "Makeup is there for you to have fun with," and encourages people to take risks and try new things with it. It is also important to her that people everywhere feel included in her line of products.

What do you love to do? What hobbies, activities, or interests are you passionate about? How can you make them more fun or more inclusive? Come up with the idea for a product or a business. Write a short description of your idea. Pitch it to your friends and family. Each time you tell someone about it, ask for their feedback. Take notes on all the responses you get. Think about the feedback and decide which ideas to incorporate. Then write an updated description of your idea. Are you ready to start your own business?