

## SERENDIPITY

As you open your senses to the sights and sounds around you, you also open yourself to serendipity – the occurrence of chance happenings.

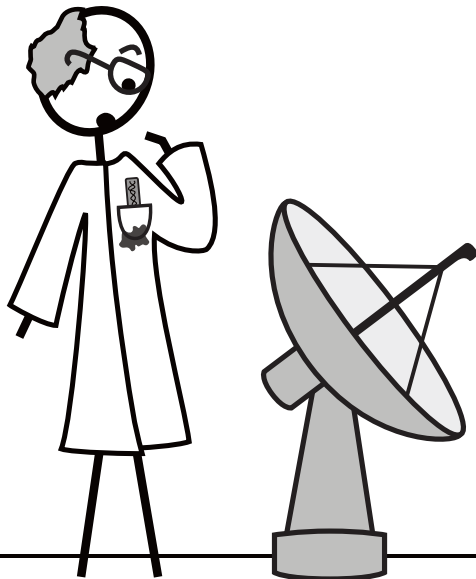
Serendipity is the stumbling upon events, people, or things when you are not consciously looking for them.

Let me tell you one of my favorite stories about serendipity and creativity.

145

In 1945 a man named Percy Spencer was working with some radar equipment.

One day he noticed that the candy bar in his pocket was melting.



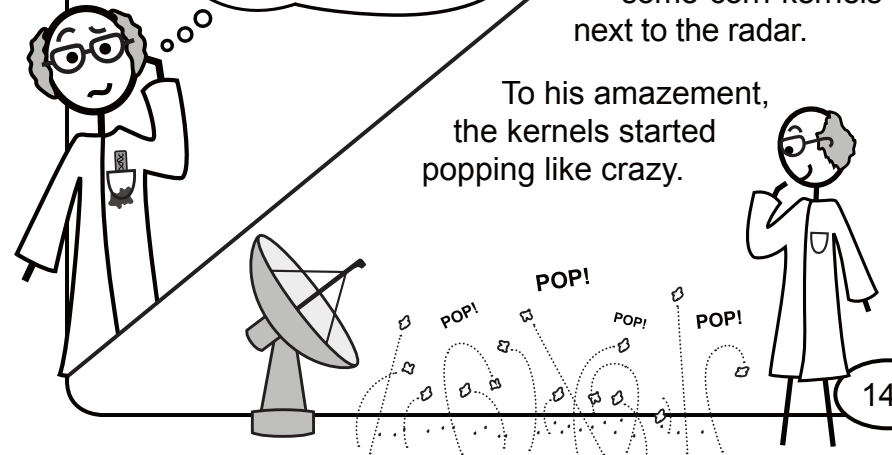
146

Percy could not understand what was happening, but figured something about the radar was cooking his candy bar.

*What the Snickers bar is going on here?*

So he placed some corn kernels next to the radar.

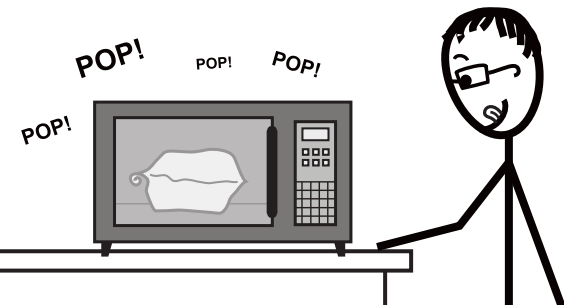
To his amazement, the kernels started popping like crazy.



147

Percy Spencer did not enter his lab that day thinking he was going to pop popcorn. Instead he planned to experiment with radio waves and radar systems. But, serendipity had a different plan for him ... and, yes, of course, Percy **built on this chance happening to invent the microwave!**

Everyday you are witness to thousands of little events. Are you watching for ideas? For oddities? For chance happenings? Is your mind wide open to possibilities?



148