



Becoming Bionic and Other Ways Science Is Making Us Super

Discussion and Activity Guide by Heather Camlot and Victor Wong

About the Book

If you could have any superpower, what would it be? Fly like Shazam? Turn invisible like Violet Parr? Or maybe have the super strength of the Hulk? Believe it or not, many of the extraordinary abilities we see in comics and movies are already a reality—or could become one soon!

This middle-grade nonfiction book uses superheroes to explore how science is transforming our bodies and our experiences. Engaging text, detailed timelines, and intricate diagrams break down how superhero traits have been reflected in technological innovations throughout history, and how they could appear in the future. Jetpacks and rocket belts can help us fly like Superman. Prosthetic limbs and lab-grown human tissue mirror the regenerative powers of Wolverine and Ms. Marvel. But readers are also invited to think critically about these incredible, and sometimes controversial, advancements—after all, with great power comes great responsibility!



Written by Heather Camlot
illustrated by Victor Wong

Before Reading

- What does it mean to be a superhero?
- If you could have any superpower, what would it be and why?

After Reading

- Has your definition of a superhero changed? If so, how?
- Do you think Terry Fox would have made it across Canada if he had a modern-day prosthetic leg?
- Why do you think humans are so taken by autonomous flight that they'll risk their lives for it?
- If you could design a "smart" lens, what features would you include?
- If you could communicate telepathically with your computer, what would you say, do or create?
- Is immortality awesome or awful? Why?
- Should we use everything science has to offer to prevent death? Why or why not?
- How else can we live forever?

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CURRICULUM LINKS

Science: Life Systems; Structures and Mechanisms; Matter and Energy

READING LEVELS

Grade: 6
Fountas & Pinnell: V
Lexile® Measure: 1130L
COMMON CORE: RL.6, W.6, SL.6, L.6



Draw Your Own Superpower!





