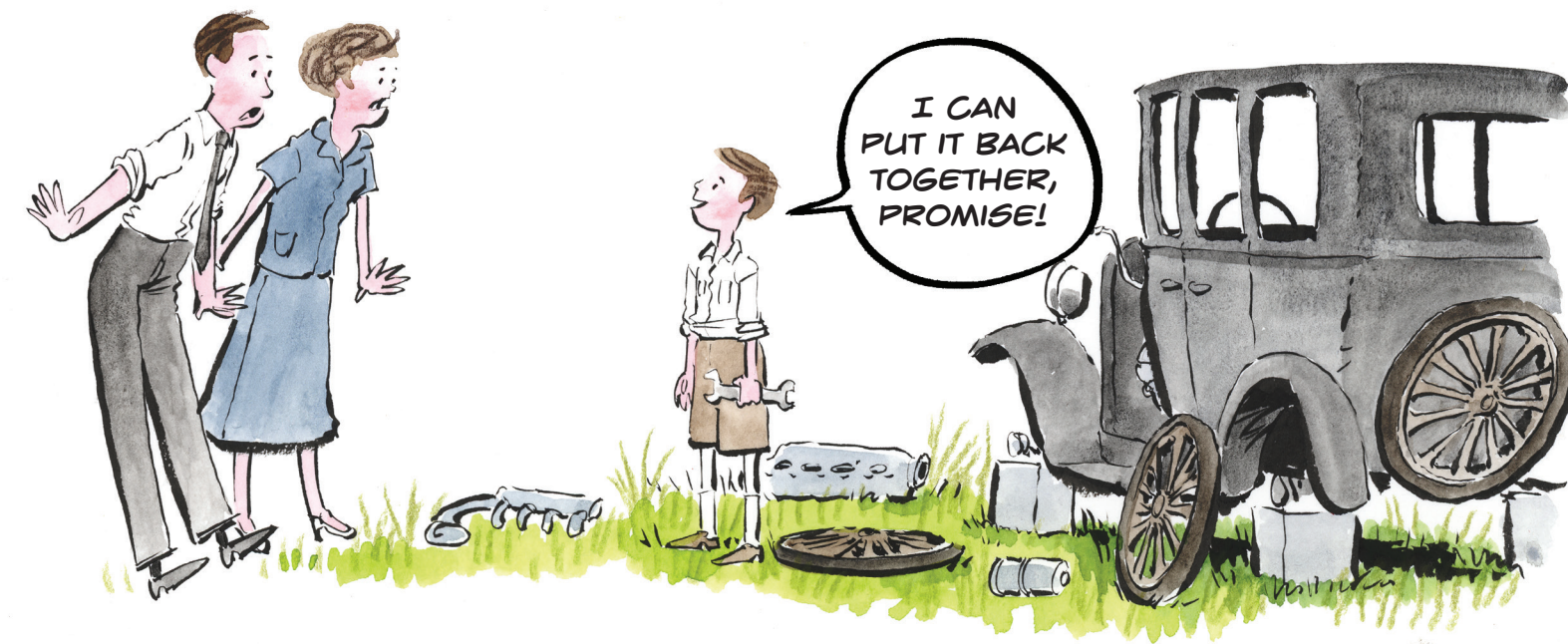
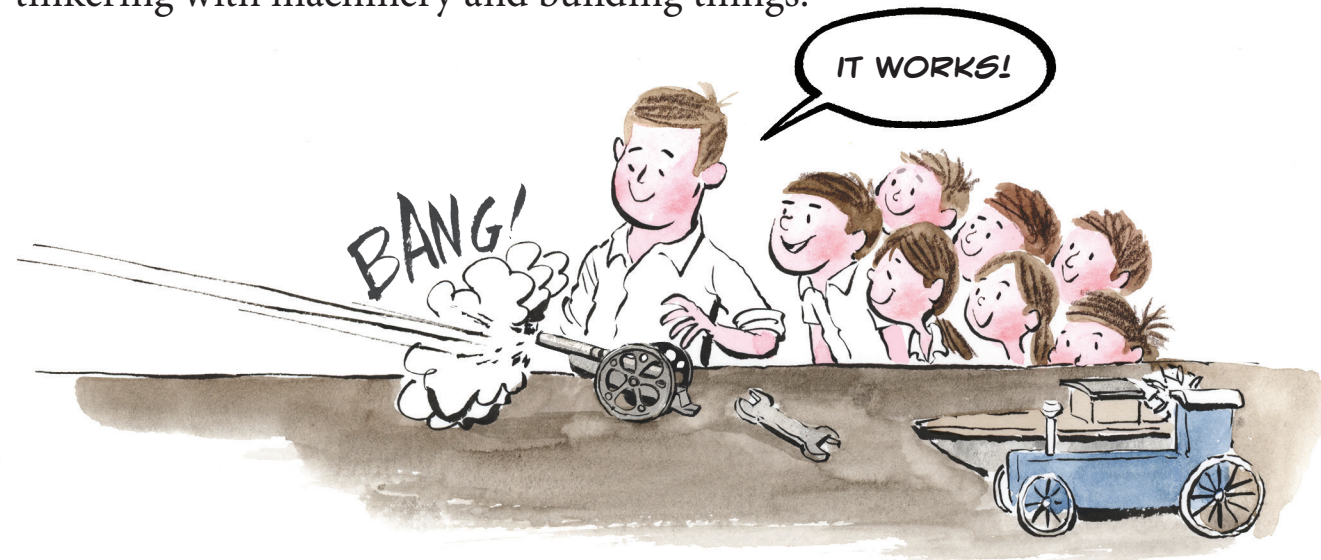


On April 16, 1907, Joseph-Armand Bombardier was born on a farm outside Valcourt, a small town near Montreal in southeastern Quebec. Even as a young boy, Armand, as his family called him, loved tinkering with machinery and building things.



When he was fifteen, Armand took the Bombardiers' car apart to figure out how it worked. His dad quickly bought him an old motor to work on so the family car would stay in one piece.



Armand was the oldest child in the family. His five brothers and two sisters loved the toys he made them. Armand made toy tractors, trains and boats. He even made a mini cannon out of an old rifle!



Armand also invented his first snow machine that year, using a sled frame, propeller and old car motor. It didn't work very well, but Armand didn't give up.