

Daily Dose of STEM

Looking for ways to connect STEM to your everyday life? Try some of these activities with your students!

S = Science T = Technology E = Engineering M = Math

	ACTIVITY	CHALLENGE
S	Fan Dance	Play in front of your fan. Find scarves, balloons, streamers, leaves, whatever will float and fly in front of the fan.
	Sink Or Float?	Gather some of your favorite toys or natural materials from outside and make predictions about whether they will sink or float.
	Play with Bubbles	While washing dishes or playing in the bath create different size bubbles. Splash your hands around. Blow on the bubbles. See how big and small they are.
T	Play with Zippers & Velcro	Have a scavenger hunt to find the longest zipper in the house, or the shortest piece of Velcro. How do these tools help keep us warm?
	Use Tools To Wrap Gifts	Have your child help wrap a few holiday presents to practice using scissors to cut, and tape to hold, and maybe even a pen to write their name or draw a picture.
	Unplugged Technology	Try using a different utensils to pick up different materials. Are certain utensils better suited for solids or liquids?
E	Build with Nature	Find natural materials like sticks, rocks, etc. and create a building out of them.
	Design A Bird House	Use a tissue box or cereal box to create a bird house. Research what birds are in your neighborhood.
	Engineer A Carpet Sled	Build a sled to pull a toy across your own floor! Test different materials, such as cardboard, newspaper, or pillowcases, to see which helps the sled move the fastest.
M	Sort Your Toys	Ask your child to sort their toys in different ways. For instance: By color, or size, or shape, by things that go or don't go...anything you can think of!
	Who's Tallest?	Measure your family members' heights using any household object. Compare the heights. Tallest? Shortest? Put them in order.
	Weigh Your Snacks	Use a hanger, yarn and two cups. Tie the cups to each side. place snacks into the cups and hang the hanger up to weigh them and observe how the hanger tilts!

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ACTIVITY	HOW TO ENCOURAGE CURIOSITY
S	Fan Dance How does it move- does it twist? Do certain fabrics move
	Sink Or Float? The ability to float depends on an object's gravity, buoyancy, and the amount of water that a boat pushes out of the way!
	Play with Bubbles This is the perfect time to engage in a basic conversation about chemistry and how mixing things together can change two things into something else!
T	Play with Zippers & Velcro As the weather turns colder, use fine motor skills to experiment with the different tools to hold things together on our jackets and coats which keep heat in.
	Use Tools To Wrap Gifts Technology is everywhere! Have your child help wrap a few presents to practice using scissors to cut, and tape to hold, and write their name or draw a picture.
	Unplugged Technology Technology is equipment that can be used to achieve goals. In the case of utensils, we might pick a spoon to carry liquids instead of a fork for its ability to hold
E	Build with Nature What type of How tall an you build your building? How wide? What is your building used for? Can you make a door or window?
	Design A Bird House Use a tissue box or cereal box to create a bird house. Research what birds are in your neighborhood. What do they need to be comfortable?
	Engineer A Carpet Sled Test different materials, such as cardboard, newspaper, or pillowcases, to see which helps the sled move the fastest.
M	Sort Your Toys Sorting is a foundational element of math. Sorting helps to make connections and classifications and is an important tool in helping to develop critical thinking skills.
	Who's Tallest? Ask your student to compare the heights. Who is the tallest? Who is the shortest? Put them in order.
	Weigh Your Snacks Ask students to identify which side goes up? The light or the heavy side. How can they make their scale perfectly balanced?