



GROW THE SEED OF SCIENCE



STEM – SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, MATH

- Children naturally explore the environment around them.
- By incorporating STEM activities, you can encourage exploration as children observe, invent, and discover.



STEM



- Research shows that having a strong foundation in early math can lead to higher achievement in both math and reading later in school.
(<https://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/earlylearning/talk-read-sing/stem-toolkit-infant-toddler-teachers.pdf>)
- Young children can learn about STEM through play and exploration, which builds curiosity about the natural world and how things work.
- The real-life skills that toddlers develop when learning STEM help them to become better problem-solvers and learners.

STEM INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- STEM is about multisensory experiences. Seeing, hearing, tasting, touching, and smelling.
- Technology is more about creations, than devices, at the toddler age.



SCIENCE

- Children are natural scientists that use basic science skills like observation and prediction. Encourage toddlers to use all their senses as they observe the natural world.
- Life Science
 - Sorting Shells
 - Examining animal pictures
 - Examining bugs
- Physical Science
 - Use of magnets
 - Play in Sand
 - Sink or float
- Energy, Light, & Sound
 - Color lenses
 - Kaleidoscope
 - Pinwheel



TECHNOLOGY

- Children learn about technology by exploring simple tools and machines and how they work. For example, using a pair of scissors helps children understand how things work.
- K'NEX
- Cameras
- Robotics
- Tablets

ENGINEERING

- Children can explore early engineering skills by building models, trying out new ideas, and designing structures.
- Block Building
- Legos
- Magnetic Building

MATH

- Children develop measurement skills as they explore the size, length, and weight of objects. Teach your child shapes. Understanding shapes is one of the early math and science concepts that children develop.
- Measurement
- Patterns and Sorting
- Ordering and Positional Words



LET'S DISCOVER THE WORLD

- Use STEM language in everyday routines
- Ask open-ended questions, while encouraging children to describe objects
- Use books to encourage STEM by counting and finding shapes.
- Always remember that children learn best through play.

