

Parent Engagement for Active Child Enrichment



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Email: pps4peace@yahoo.com Website: <http://www.peacenurtureskids.org/>

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics) Activities Get Your Child to Pursue STEM Activities At Home During the Current School Closure.

Science

- Conduct an experiment and make predictions (Which objects float and which sink and find out why?).
- Create a ramp with a cardboard box or wooden board. Place objects with different shapes and materials at the top to find out what they do on the ramp. Some might roll. Some might slide. Some might not move at all! Talk about the attributes of objects that roll and those that slide.
- Have your child classify animals into mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects, etc. Let her choose an animal to do further research: its characteristics, its structural and behavior adaptations to fit into the environment, etc.

Engineering

- Build a structure - a tower using Lego blocks or gluing craft sticks together.
- Insert marshmallows into toothpicks and make triangles and squares.
- Use paper cups to build the tallest tower you can in 6 minutes.
- Make a barge with a 6-inch square of tinfoil. Fold up the edges on all 4 sides and pinch the corners to make a good seal. Place the boat in water to see if it stays floating.

Technology

Direct your child to the following websites to pursue STEM activities:

- www.mathisfun.com website. Go to the Games section and play interactive games.
- <https://www.khanacademy.org/> The Khan Academy website offers a variety of math and science activities.
- <http://pbskids.org/designsquad> This PBS site, Design Squad, features creative activities, engaging video, interactive games, and exciting contests.
- <http://www.discovere.org/> At the Discover Engineering site, children can view videos, play interactive games, and design "Cool Stuff."

Mathematics

- **Measurement:** Have fun measuring things around the house (a block tower, table, book, cup, chair, etc.) Find out the length, width and height. If your child loves to bake or cook with you, you can have him/her measure ingredients in wholes or in parts.
- **Estimation:** Estimate number of chocolate chips or chips in a bag or the number of books in a small bookcase. Count, check if your estimate was close.
- **Money:** Figure out which is a better buy: (1) 2 crayon boxes cost \$4.00 or 3 boxes for \$5.00; (2) A bag of 10 oranges costs \$3.00 or one orange costs 0.40 cents.

Encourage Your Child's Curiosity and Questioning.

Ask "why," "what" and "how" questions as much as possible to get children to explain their thinking.