



STEM CYCLE 2

# PROGRAM GUIDE

May through August 2026

Ignite curiosity and explore hands-on STEM adventures with SciTech's Cycle Two Programs!



[goscitech.org](http://goscitech.org)





# A Look Ahead



## **Fuel Your Curiosity: Welcome to Cycle One!**

We are ready to fill your summer months with weeks of investigation, discovery, and fun! During Cycle Two, we will continue our STEMtastic year with four new themes spanning May through August. In May, we will be exploring the forces that shape our atmosphere, weather patterns, and the changing climate. In June, we will be putting our engineering and design skills to the test with structures and bridges. In July, we will get up close with habitats, ecosystems, and the outdoors during Ecology month and in August it's time to fly with a month all about flight and aerodynamics! Come get curious with us during Cycle Two!

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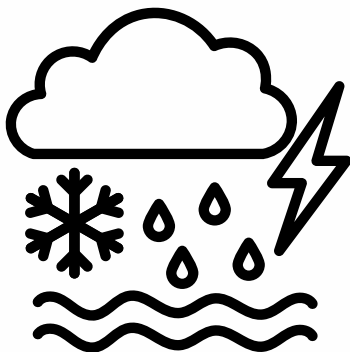
# May Birth - 5

**STEM Buds**  
**Ages Birth - 2 w/ caregiver**  
**Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:30-11:30 am**

Join us for a breezy, hands-on exploration of weather! Babies and toddlers, alongside their caregivers, will discover the wonders of sun, wind, rain, and clouds through sensory-rich play. Together, we'll feel gentle "raindrops," explore soft cloud textures, and watch colorful scarves swirl like the wind.

Little ones will experiment with cause-and-effect as they make "rain" fall, create wind with simple movements, and explore tornadoes in a bottle—watching swirling water spin and twist like a real storm.

It's the perfect way to introduce your little one to the magic of weather through play, curiosity, and discovery!



**PREK STEM Sprouts:**  
**Mini Meteorologists**  
**Ages 3-5**  
**Tuesdays, 1:15-2:45**  
**May 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>**

In this playful, hands-on series, young learners will step into the role of junior weather scientists as they explore the wonders of the sky and the world around them. Through age-appropriate experiments, stories, and creative projects, children will discover how weather works—from sunshine and clouds to wind, rain, and changing seasons.

Each week introduces a new concept, such as observing cloud types, creating rain in a jar, exploring how wind moves objects, or tracking daily weather patterns. Children will engage in sensory activities, simple experiments, and imaginative play as they investigate cause and effect in the natural world.

With a blend of movement, exploration, and interactive learning, this program sparks curiosity while building early STEM skills. It's the perfect introduction to weather science, helping young learners observe, ask questions, and better understand the ever-changing world around them!

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# MAY Family Open Lab Hours

SciTech's Open Lab Hours offer families with children from birth through middle school a chance to dive into hands-on STEM exploration. Packed with engaging activities and interactive experiments, this program encourages curiosity and creativity in a fun, welcoming environment. It's the perfect way for families to learn and play together while discovering the wonders of science, technology, engineering, and math!

All ages and abilities are always welcome. Activities rotate monthly.

Stop by the SciTech STEM Lab for an outing of exploration during our open hours! Dive into a variety of hands-on STEM activities and let your curiosity lead the way. Whether you're a budding scientist, a future engineer, or just eager to discover, our classroom and lab spaces are ready for you to explore at your own pace. This month will feature activities exploring weather systems and climate.



**Wednesday, May 20th**

**1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**

**Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>**

**10:00 am - 1:00 pm**

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# JUNE Birth - 5

**Structures & Bridges Summer Camp, Ages 3-6**  
**Preschool - Entering Kindergarten**  
**Monday through Friday**  
**June 8, 9, 10, 11, 12**  
**9:00-10:00 am**

In this playful, hands-on camp, young builders will explore the exciting world of structures and bridges! Through age-appropriate challenges, stories, and creative building activities, campers will discover how things are designed, built, and made strong.

Each day, children will experiment with different materials—like blocks, cardboard, and other fun supplies—to construct towers, bridges, and imaginative structures. Along the way, they'll explore big ideas like balance, stability, and what makes a structure sturdy, all through trial, error, and lots of creativity.

Campers will test their designs, work together to solve problems, and celebrate their creations as they learn through play. With a mix of movement, storytelling, and hands-on exploration, this camp builds early STEM skills while encouraging confidence, curiosity, and a love of building!



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# JUNE Elementary (Grades K-5)

## **Structures & Bridges Camp, Ages 7-9**

**1<sup>st</sup> grade - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade**

**Monday through Friday**

**June 22, 23, 24, 25, 26**

**9:00 am - 11:00 am**

In this hands-on engineering camp, campers will explore the exciting world of structures and bridge design through creative building challenges and problem-solving activities. Using a variety of materials, they'll design and construct towers and bridges while discovering how shape, balance, weight distribution, and support systems affect strength and stability. Campers will experiment with different bridge types—such as beam, arch, and truss—and test their designs to see what works best. Through building, testing, and improving their creations, students will develop critical thinking and teamwork skills while learning real-world engineering concepts in a fun, engaging environment.

## **Structures & Bridges Camp, Ages 10-12**

**4th grade - 6th grade**

**Monday through Friday**

**June 29, 30 / July 1, 2, 3**

**9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

In this dynamic engineering camp, campers will dive deeper into the science behind structures and bridge design, exploring how engineers use physics and design principles to build strong and efficient structures. Through hands-on challenges, students will design, build, and test models while investigating forces like tension and compression, load distribution, and material strength. They'll explore a variety of bridge types—including beam, arch, truss, and suspension—and use the engineering design process to plan, prototype, and refine their work. This camp encourages critical thinking, collaboration, and innovation as campers take on more advanced building challenges and push their designs to the next level.

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# JUNE UPPER GRADES (AGES 12+)

## Engineering Design Process



- Ask
- Research
- Imagine
- Plan
- Create
- Test
- Improve



## Structures & Bridges Camp, Ages 10-12

4th grade - 6th grade

Monday through Friday

June 29, 30 / July 1, 2, 3

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

In this dynamic engineering camp, campers will dive deeper into the science behind structures and bridge design, exploring how engineers use physics and design principles to build strong and efficient structures. Through hands-on challenges, students will design, build, and test models while investigating forces like tension and compression, load distribution, and material strength. They'll explore a variety of bridge types—including beam, arch, truss, and suspension—and use the engineering design process to plan, prototype, and refine their work. This camp encourages critical thinking, collaboration, and innovation as campers take on more advanced building challenges and push their designs to the next level.

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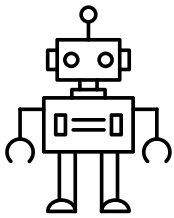
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# JUNE STEM4U



Uniquely adapted STEM classes increasing STEM accessibility for all designed for participants with unique needs or disabilities. Class size will be capped at 8 participants to ensure a small learning environment and individualized attention.

## **Structures & Bridges Adaptive Camp** **Grades Entering 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade** **Monday through Friday** **June 22, 23, 24, 25, 26** **1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**

In this inclusive, hands-on engineering camp, students will explore the exciting world of structures and bridge design in a supportive and flexible environment designed for learners with unique needs. Through guided, age-appropriate challenges, campers will build towers and bridges using a variety of materials while discovering key concepts like balance, stability, and strength. Activities are designed with multiple entry points, allowing students to explore at their own pace while developing problem-solving, creativity, and confidence. With a focus on collaboration, sensory-friendly experiences, and the joy of building, this camp provides a welcoming space for all learners to engage with STEM concepts and bring their ideas to life.



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# JULY Birth - 5

**Ecology Summer Camp, Ages 3-6  
Preschool - Entering Kindergarten  
Monday through Friday  
July 6, 7, 8, 9, 10  
9:00-10:00 am**

In this playful, nature-filled camp, young learners will explore the basics of ecology and discover how plants, animals, and their environments are all connected. Through hands-on activities and guided exploration, campers will begin to understand how living things grow, change, and depend on one another.

Campers will investigate the natural world through sensory play, simple experiments, and creative projects—like planting seeds, observing insects, exploring habitats, and learning how to care for our environment. They'll ask questions, make observations, and engage with nature in ways that spark curiosity and wonder.

With a mix of movement, storytelling, and hands-on discovery, this camp builds early science skills while encouraging a love for the outdoors. It's the perfect introduction to ecology for young explorers who are excited to learn about the world around them!



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# JULY Elementary (Grades K-5)

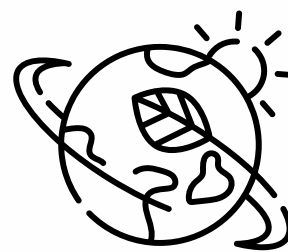
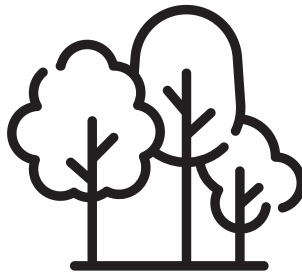
## Ecology Camp, Ages 7-9

1<sup>st</sup> grade - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

Monday through Friday

July 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

9:00 am - 11:00 am



In this hands-on, nature-focused camp, campers will explore the interconnected world of ecology as they investigate how plants, animals, and environments depend on one another. Through engaging experiments and outdoor-inspired activities, students will study ecosystems, habitats, and food chains while learning how energy flows through the natural world. Campers will observe and classify living things, explore topics like conservation and environmental impact, and take part in projects such as building habitats or modeling ecosystems. By asking questions, making observations, and testing ideas, students will develop critical thinking skills and a deeper appreciation for the environment in a fun and engaging setting.

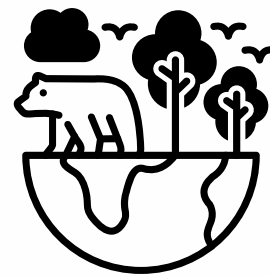
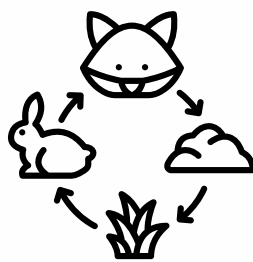
## Ecology Camp, Ages 10-12

4<sup>th</sup> grade - 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Monday through Friday

July 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

9:00 am - 12:00 pm



In this engaging, hands-on camp, campers will dive deeper into the science of ecology as they explore how organisms interact with each other and their environments. Through experiments and real-world investigations, students will study ecosystems, food webs, biodiversity, and the impact humans have on the natural world. Campers will analyze environmental challenges, model ecological systems, and participate in projects like designing sustainable habitats or exploring conservation strategies. With an emphasis on inquiry and critical thinking, this camp encourages students to ask questions, interpret data, and develop solutions—perfect for curious learners interested in protecting and understanding our planet.

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# JULY UPPER GRADES (AGES 12+)

## Engineering Design Process



- Ask
- Research
- Imagine
- Plan
- Create
- Test
- Improve



**Ecology Camp, Ages 10-12**  
**4th grade - 6th grade**  
**Monday through Friday**  
**July 20, 21, 22, 23, 24**  
**9:00 am- 12:00 pm**

In this engaging, hands-on camp, campers will dive deeper into the science of ecology as they explore how organisms interact with each other and their environments. Through experiments and real-world investigations, students will study ecosystems, food webs, biodiversity, and the impact humans have on the natural world. Campers will analyze environmental challenges, model ecological systems, and participate in projects like designing sustainable habitats or exploring conservation strategies. With an emphasis on inquiry and critical thinking, this camp encourages students to ask questions, interpret data, and develop solutions—perfect for curious learners interested in protecting and understanding our planet.

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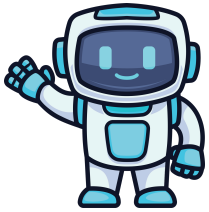


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# JULY STEM4U



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**Ecology Adaptive Camp**  
**Grades Entering 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade**  
**Monday through Friday**  
**July 13, 14, 15, 16, 17**  
**1:00 pm- 3:00 pm**



In this inclusive, hands-on ecology camp, students will explore the natural world in a supportive and engaging environment designed for learners with unique needs. Through guided activities and flexible exploration, campers will discover how plants, animals, and ecosystems are connected while investigating habitats, food chains, and environmental care. Using sensory-friendly experiences, creative projects, and simple experiments, students will observe, build, and interact with nature at their own pace. With a focus on curiosity, collaboration, and confidence-building, this camp provides a welcoming space for all learners to engage with ecology and develop a deeper appreciation for the world around them.

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# AUGUST Birth - 5

## Flight & Aerodynamics Summer Camp, Ages 3-6

Preschool - Entering Kindergarten

Monday through Friday

August 17, 18, 19, 20, 21

9:00 - 10:00 am

In this playful, high-flying camp, young learners will explore the basics of flight and discover how things soar through the sky. Through hands-on activities and guided exploration, campers will begin to understand how forces like lift and gravity work together to help objects take off, glide, and land.

Campers will investigate the science of aerodynamics through sensory play, simple experiments, and creative projects—like building paper airplanes, testing gliders, launching lightweight flyers, and exploring how air moves. They'll ask questions, make observations, and experiment with different shapes and materials to see what flies best.

With a mix of movement, storytelling, and hands-on discovery, this camp builds early science skills while sparking curiosity about the world above us. It's the perfect introduction to flight and aerodynamics for young explorers ready to design, test, and watch their ideas take off!



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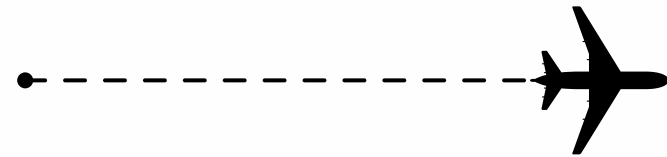


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# AUGUST Elementary (Grades K-5)



## **Flight & Aerodynamics Camp**

**Ages 7-9**

**1<sup>st</sup> grade - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade**

**Monday through Friday**

**August 10, 11, 12, 13, 14**

**\*\*\*3 Day Camp Option**

**available (M-W)**

**9:00 am - 11:00 am**

Take to the skies and become a junior aerospace engineer in this hands-on Flight Lab STEM workshop! Participants will explore how the science of aerodynamics makes flight possible, then design and test their own flying creations using paper, lightweight materials, and simple building tools. As they fold, launch, and refine their designs, kids will investigate forces like lift, drag, thrust, and gravity—and see how wing shape and structure impact performance. Through fun experiments and flight challenges, students will think like real engineers as they test ideas, make improvements, and push their designs farther.

## **Flight & Aerodynamics Camp**

**Ages 10-12**

**4th grade - 6th grade**

**Monday through Friday**

**August 3, 4, 5, 6, 7**

**9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

In this engaging, hands-on camp, campers will take to the skies as they explore the exciting world of flight and aerodynamics. Through experiments and real-world investigations, students will discover how forces like lift, drag, thrust, and gravity work together to make flight possible. Campers will design, build, and test a variety of flying models—from paper airplanes to gliders and simple drones—while learning how shape, speed, and air pressure affect performance.

Along the way, they'll analyze real aviation challenges, experiment with different wing designs, and explore how engineers and pilots apply aerodynamic principles in the real world. With an emphasis on inquiry, creativity, and problem-solving, this camp encourages students to ask questions, test ideas, and refine their designs—perfect for curious learners ready to soar into the science of flight.

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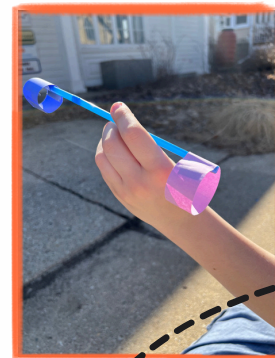


# AUGUST UPPER GRADES (AGES 12+)

## Engineering Design Process



- Ask
- Research
- Imagine
- Plan
- Create
- Test
- Improve



**Flight & Aerodynamics Camp, Ages 10-12**  
**4th grade - 6th grade**  
**Monday through Friday**  
**August 3, 4, 5, 6, 7**  
**9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

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# SciTech Mobile Programming

## Mobile Programming with Scitech

SciTech specializes in sparking excitement and curiosity in STEM! We offer a wide-ranging catalog of dynamic STEMshops, programs, and hands-on learning opportunities designed to ignite imagination and foster discovery. Whether you're interested in customizing a workshop or choosing from our ready-to-go experiences, we tailor each session to meet the unique needs of your group. From experimenting with chemical reactions to investigating ecosystems, there's a STEM adventure waiting just for you!

### What We Offer

- Custom built STEM Workshops
- Mobile Planetarium
- Spin Art
- Wind Tunnels
- School Events/STEM Fest Booths
- And more!

### Perfect For

- In-house school field trips (save on busing!)
- Homeschool groups
- Libraries
- Park Districts
- Girl Scout Troops
- Boy Scout Troops
- Community Groups
- PTOs/PTAs
- And more!

### Why Choose SciTech?

- Custom built programs to align with your curriculum/theme/focus
- NGSS Alignment/ Standards Alignment
- Unique add-on STEM programming
- Dedicated staff support for setup and programming
- All Supplies included
- We take care of the clean up
- Adaptable programming for participants & classrooms supporting students with special needs

EM GO | GO STEM GO | GO STEM GO | GO STEM GO | GO STEM GO | GO STEM GO

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# Private Events



## Private Events at SciTech

Host your next gathering in a space designed to spark curiosity and creativity. SciTech offers private event rentals ideal for small group STEM experiences, workshops, and meetings. Whether you're planning an outing for students, scouts, or a community group, SciTech provides a unique, hands-on environment.

## What We Offer

- **STEM Workshops** – Add an interactive, hands-on STEM activity led by SciTech educators, tailored to your group's age and interests.
- **Open Lab Experiences** – Give your group the chance to explore SciTech's exhibits at their own pace with guided support from our staff.
- **Meeting Space** – Reserve classroom-style spaces for team meetings, trainings, or group sessions.

## Perfect For

- School field trips and enrichment outings
- Homeschool groups
- Scout groups earning STEM badges
- Small community gatherings or workshops
- Corporate and nonprofit team meetings

## Why Choose SciTech?

- Flexible spaces for small to medium groups
- Unique add-on STEM programming
- Inspiring, curiosity-driven environment
- Dedicated staff support for setup and programming

## Plan Your Event

When you book a private event at SciTech, you're not just reserving a room—you're creating an experience where science, technology, and teamwork come alive.

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# STEMTASTIC Birthdays!

## ● 2 Hour Base Package \$225

- 8 Party Guests including Guest of Honor
- 15 minute advanced arrival time for Guest of Honor & family to set up decor
- 30 Minute Science Demo
- 60 Minutes Hands-On Guided Stem Activity or Open Lab Time
- 30 Minutes in Party Zone for cake/food
- Downloadable pdf birthday party invitation
- STEM Themed Tableware (plates, cups, napkins, tablecloth, utensils)
- Additional party participants **\$20 each**

## ● Hands-On STEM Theme Choices

**Flying Objects:** Get ready to take off at our Flying Objects Birthday Party! Join us for a day of high-flying fun as we explore the science behind flight and engineering through wind tunnel in an exciting hands-on environment.

**Coding:** Guests will learn the basics of coding by using color codes and simple commands to guide Ozobots through creative challenges, mazes, and games. It's a fun and interactive way to explore STEM while celebrating with friends.

**Storm the Castle:** Party guests will work together to design and build their own castles, then use simple engineering principles to create catapults to launch projectiles and test their strength. It's a fun, hands-on challenge where kids experiment, problem-solve, and see if their castle can survive the siege!

**Chemical Reactions :** Prepare for a day brimming with hands-on experiments and mind-blowing demonstrations! Young scientists will become chemists as they mix colorful solutions, create bubbly reactions, and witness incredible transformations. Who knows what surprises await in our science lab!  
**Add \$5 per child**

**Mini Bots:** Get ready for a day packed with innovation and creativity! Young engineers will dive into the exciting realm of robotics, where they'll build their very own vibrating mini bot! **Add \$5 per child**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY | HAPPY BIRTHDAY | HAPPY BIRTHDAY | HAPPY BIRTHDAY |

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# STEM Preschool 2026-2027

## 2026-2027 Program

### AM Session:

Tuesdays/Thursdays, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

September - May

Must by 3 by September 1<sup>st</sup>

Enrollment Is Open

## What We Offer

- **Play-Based Learning:** We understand that children learn best through play. Our activities are designed to be engaging and fun, allowing children to explore and discover at their own pace.
- **Hands-On Activities:** From building blocks to basic science experiments, our hands-on activities stimulate curiosity and promote problem-solving skills.
- **STEM Focus:** Our curriculum integrates science, technology, engineering, and math concepts in a way that is accessible and exciting for young minds.
- **Child Led Environment:** With small class sizes, each child receives personalized attention and support from our experienced educators.

## Meet Mrs. Sara Salinas

Ms. Sara is a dedicated and experienced early childhood teacher with over 17 years in education. She holds an active Illinois Type 04 teaching license, which covers birth through third grade, as well as a special education endorsement. Throughout her career, she has worked with a wide range of learners, including at-risk students, English language learners, and children in blended special education classrooms. Ms. Sara is also certified in First Aid and CPR, and she's passionate about creating a safe, nurturing, and inclusive environment where every child can thrive.



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# SciTech Summer Camp 2026

## JUNE



AGES	CLASS	DATES	TIME
Ages 3-6	Camp, M-F	6/8-6/12	9:00-10:00 AM
Ages 7-9	Camp, M-F	6/22-6/26	9:00-11:00 AM
Ages 10-12	Camp, M-F	6/29 - 7/3	9:00 - 12:00 PM
STEM4U K-5 Adaptive Camp		6/22-6/26	1:00-3:00 PM



## Structures & Bridges



## Ecology

## JULY



AGES	CLASS	DATES	TIME
Ages 3-6	Camp, M-F	7/6-7/10	9:00-10:00 AM
Ages 7-9	Camp, M-F	7/13-7/17	9:00-11:00 AM
Ages 10-12	Camp, M-F	7/20 - 7/24	9:00-12:00 PM
STEM4U K-5 Adaptive Camp		7/13-7/17	1:00-3:00 PM

## AUGUST



AGES	CLASS	DATES	TIME
Ages 3-6	Camp, M-F	8/17-8/21	9:00-10:00 AM
Ages 7-9	Camp, M-F	8/10-8/14	9:00-11:00 AM
Ages 10-12	Camp, M-F	8/3 - 8/7	9:00 - 12:00 PM



## Flight & Aerodynamics

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# Our Team



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## Board of Directors:

Lauren Brooks     Anthony Salinas  
Donna Allen       Rachel Whelan

## Our STEMtastic Educators:

Lynn Diviak         Kim Anderson  
Sean Ryan           Emma Kielion  
Vanessa True

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