Promising Practices for Implementing STEM in Public Libraries

Presented by Dr. Annette Shtivelband

Date: Wednesday, November 16th, 2016
Time: 1:00 pm MDT

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) provides a new and promising direction in public library education and programming. Yet, what do researchers suggest are promising practices for implementing STEM? What can we learn from the informal education landscape about offering such programs to youth? How can we develop and nurture STEM education and programs that can reach youth from all backgrounds? Join us for this informative webinar that focuses on promising practices for
how you can build and strengthen your STEM program and apply lessons learned from this research study.

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Our Facebook Page is a great way to keep up-to-date on all the new and updated content on our website. We regularly provide posts about upcoming webinars and conferences, new blogs and forum topics, special event info (Earth Day, 2017 Eclipse, etc.), and numerous additional resources such as books, guides, posters and our STEM Activity Clearinghouse where you can find high quality, vetted STEM activities appropriate for library use.

And sure, we like to have a little fun too with interesting articles from our partners and Science leaders, as well as fun facts, pictures and memes from a variety of sources. So, what are you waiting for? Visit our page and LIKE US today!

Read more >>

Pumpkins! (with STEMs!)

Happy Autumn! Like the rest of the known (well, at least here in the Midwest!) world, you CAN bring pumpkins into your programming! But there are ways to do this which include many STEM concepts as well as fun!

Read more >>

Tools & the Brain

Our library recently hosted the traveling exhibit Exploring Human Origins, which came to Skokie from the...
Hands-on STEM: Tasty Earth Science

Do you have a favorite trail mix, wrap, salad, or other simple snack that features a regional food ingredient? Help us build a collection of tween- and teen-friendly recipes! Please email us your simple-to-prepare local food snack recipes (with source credit), and we’ll add them to the collection on our Pinterest board.

Download the Recipe for a Region Activity Guide to find programming tips for engaging tweens and teens in an edible exploration of the native plants and crops that thrive in your regional climate. (Here’s a tip from Justin at TLL Temple Memorial Library in Diboll, TX: Invite local businesses to donate regional foods!)

Professional Development

Check out tips and activities for libraries with limited staff and budget, who still want to have a little fun! See our slides from STAR_Net’s ARSL conference session, "Active STEM Programs on a Shoestring Budget," for details.

Wyn Jennings (National Science Foundation), Sandy Toro

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LaConte (NCIL/STAR_Net) presented "New Directions for Rural Libraries" at the ARSL conference. Follow the links to check out their presentation slides and read about the agencies' visions for assisting rural libraries in their quest to serve and educate their local communities.

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Make Your Own STEM Mini-exhibits!

The panels from our popular traveling exhibitions are now available to print for your own library.

Download the files (for FREE!), in a variety of sizes, from the [STAR_Net website](https://www.starnet.org/

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Networking and Training Opportunities

The Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP) presents a Special STEM Outreach Conference

December 8-9 - St. Louis, Missouri, Moonrise Hotel

*Engage Every Child in the 2017 Total Solar Eclipse: Working Together with Diverse and Underserved Communities Across America*

[Click here](https://www.starnet.org/) to learn more about this special conference.

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National Endowment for the Arts Big Read

The Big Read promotes reading communities. Eligible organizations, i.e., governments, libraries, school districts, colleges and universities, and non-profit organizations, apply for an estimated 75 grants ranging in size from $5,000 to $20,000 for activities conducted sometime between September 2017 - June 2018. The application deadline is January 26, 2017.

[Learn more >>](https://www.starnet.org/)

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Make A Difference

[Click here](https://www.starnet.org/) to support SSI on Dec. 6, 2016!

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[Register](https://www.starnet.org/) to join the STAR_Net community! Registering means you can participate in forums, comment on blogs, and help

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professionals. New subscribers will receive our monthly newsletter - where we share all of our exciting developments!

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The STAR Library Education Network (STAR_Net) is supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation and other funders. STAR stands for ScienceTechnology Activities and Resources. This groundbreaking program includes a traveling STEM exhibition program, the development of STEM activities for public libraries, a comprehensive training program that includes inperson workshops and webinars, the development of the STAR_Net Online Community, and a research and evaluation program. STAR_Net is led by the Space Science Institute’s National Center for Interactive Learning. Partners include the American Library Association, Lunar and Planetary Institute, and the Afterschool Alliance along with many other organizations.
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