

January 2023

STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) activities you can do at home, school, or the library.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Theme: Colors Read Ruby, Violet, Lime by Jane Brocket	2 SCIENCE Mix different colors together. How do the colors change?	3 TECHNOLOGY Make a nature notebook for your observations this year. Staple or sew together scratch paper. You can make one for each month!	4 ENGINEERING Build a structure with blocks in different colors. Are some colored blocks stronger than others? Or are they the same?	5 ART Paint a picture using different colors. Which colors do you like to put together?	6 MATH Count the things you see outside in different colors. Make a graph. How many green things, brown things, red things, etc. did you see?	7 Write or draw about what you learned this week. Make sure to label all the colors you see and use!
8 Theme: Hibernation Read Wait, Rest, Pause: Dormancy in nature by Marcie Atkins	9 SCIENCE Research five favorite animals. Do they hibernate or go dormant? Do they live through drought or winter?	10 TECHNOLOGY What do you sleep on? How is it made and what is it made out of?	11 ENGINEERING How is your house or school kept warm? Learn about how your heating system works.	12 ART Draw pictures of how different animals hibernate.	13 MATH Look at a calendar and count how many days the animals in the book are dormant or hibernating.	14 Write or draw about what you learned this week. Look for animals outside—what are they doing in the winter?
15 Theme: Bears Read Eat like a bear by April Pulley Sayre	16 SCIENCE What would a perfect place for a bear to live look like? Make a list of all the things they will need.	17 TECHNOLOGY Explore Wisconsin Public Television: Education, and look for information about bears	18 ENGINEERING A bear has very strong jaws. Make your own “bear jaws” with clothes pins or binder clips and test them out.	19 ART Make fuzzy bears with cotton balls or stuffing.	20 MATH Count how many different things a bear eats. How many different things do you eat?	21 Write or draw about what you learned this week. Look for places a bear would like when you’re outside. What makes a good bear den?
22 Theme: Ice Read Glacier on the move by Elizabeth Rusch	23 SCIENCE Fill a balloon with water and put it outside to freeze. What happens?	24 TECHNOLOGY Slide on the snow in different places and with different shoes. Which goes faster? Why?	25 ENGINEERING Use rocks, ice, and snow to create your own glacier. Experiment to see how it shapes the landscape.	26 ART Put colored water outside to freeze. Draw with it and see what happens.	27 MATH Put different liquids outside and time how long it takes them to freeze. Try salt water, regular water, and oil.	28 Visit ice in two places, like the skating rink in Elkhorn or a frozen lake. How is the ice different or similar?
29 Theme: Crystals Read The story of snow by Mark Cassino	30 SCIENCE Experiment with making salt crystals https://www.wikihow.com/Make-Salt-Crystals	31 TECHNOLOGY Did you know crystals are used in technology? Use a microscope to look at salt or snow crystals.	What’s your New Year’s resolution? Try doing a STEAM project every day. It can be as simple as taking a walk outdoors and observing what you see, splashing in the bathtub, or helping to make dinner. When you take a walk, talk about what you see. When you splash in the bathtub, see what floats and what sinks and how water moves. When you help with dinner, talk about how ingredients combine.			

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<p>Did you know the library has storytime kits you can check out to use in your classroom or at home? Remember, for young children play is learning—add a little science every day and help kids learn about their world and follow their curiosity!</p>			<p>1 ENGINEERING Experiment with different kinds of crystals https://www.steamsational.com/crystal-experiments/</p>	<p>2 ART Try raised salt painting https://artfulparent.com/raised-salt-painting/</p>	<p>3 MATH Draw crystals—what shapes do they form? How many sides do they have? Are they symmetrical?</p>	<p>4 Do you see salt anywhere outside? What happens when it is on the snow and ice?</p>
<p>5 Theme: Water cycle Read When cloud became a cloud by Rob Hodgson</p>	<p>6 SCIENCE How many water sources can you find in your home, school, and outdoors? What stage of the water cycle are they in?</p>	<p>7 TECHNOLOGY What technology can you find at home to affect the water cycle? Can you turn water into steam and/or ice?</p>	<p>8 ENGINEERING Build a boat that can float in your sink or bathtub</p>	<p>9 ART Draw pictures of the water cycle</p>	<p>10 MATH Look at a weather report online. What is the weather like in different places? Make a graph of the weather for the past few weeks.</p>	<p>11 Write or draw about what you learned this week. Look for water when you walk outside. Is it frozen or liquid?</p>
<p>12 Theme: Trees Read Tremendous by Bridget Heos</p>	<p>13 SCIENCE Look at an evergreen branch and a deciduous branch. What is different? What is the same?</p>	<p>14 TECHNOLOGY Look for things that are made out of wood. How many things can you find?</p>	<p>15 ENGINEERING Build something with popsicle sticks or wood scraps.</p>	<p>16 ART Take some paper and crayons on a walk and make rubbings of tree bark.</p>	<p>17 MATH Measure some trees. Look up online the formula for measuring a tree by its shadow.</p>	<p>18 Identify trees on your weekly walk. How many different kinds can you see?</p>
<p>19 Theme: Germs Read Do not lick this book! By Idan Ben-Barak</p>	<p>20 SCIENCE Use glitter for an experiment with “germs” https://www.childrensmuseum.org/blog/real-science-glitter-germs</p>	<p>21 TECHNOLOGY Read Small Matters by Heather Kinser and look at the pictures of microscopic bacteria</p>	<p>22 ENGINEERING How does the pump on a soap dispenser work? Take it apart to find out!</p>	<p>23 ART Draw pictures of germs.</p>	<p>24 MATH Use a thermometer in this experiment https://www.steamsational.com/hand-washing-science-experiment/</p>	<p>25 Clean things up! Look for all the places there might be germs in your house and have a cleaning party!</p>
<p>26 Owls Read Owling by Mark Wilson</p>	<p>27 SCIENCE Dissect an owl pellet</p>	<p>28 TECHNOLOGY Use soft material (feather, cloth, or stuffing) to build a paper airplane. Can you duplicate an owl’s wings?</p>	<p>You can see a complete list on our Pinterest page, https://www.pinterest.com/elkhornlibrary/circulating-toy-collection/storytime-kits/ These include science-themed kits like Bugs, Dinosaurs, and Exploring the Seasons. Kits include books, manipulatives, and suggestions for hands-on play and learning.</p>			