

STEM AT A DISTANCE!

STEM³ Academy, the first school in the nation to provide a STEM curriculum to students with social and learning differences, and our new homeschool academic program, The Learning Center, are taking on STEM learning at a distance. Check out what our resilient teachers and students have been up to during distance learning!

THE FUTURE IS NOW!

While not all of the college acceptances are in, we're thrilled with what we have so far. Seniors have been accepted to UC Berkeley, UC San Diego, UC Davis, and a host of Cal States as well as two-year colleges. We acknowledge them and their teachers' hard work, and we wish them every success!



OF MICROBES AND MEN

Welcome *Thermus thermophilus* HB8, the identified microbe that our high school Bioinformatics class is working on. They're annotating the microbe's genes in conjunction with the National Institute of Health and Seattle Pacific University. That research has led them to a deeper appreciation of how the annotation of the genes of coronavirus is one of the steps necessary to finding a vaccine or a cure.



PUZZLES AND PROBLEMS

Rube Goldberg's grand-daughter has challenged all students to construct a Rube Goldberg device at home, video it, and post the video for all to see. So if you hear the sounds of balls rolling, and wooden blocks falling in your house, tread lightly! Our students are at work! They're also solving coding puzzles—they have a certain amount of time to solve the puzzle, competing against their classmates.

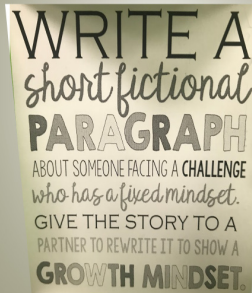


MAKING ART AND NOISE

Elementary students explored post-impressionist art through the work of Vincent Van Gogh's *Starry Night*. Fortunately, no ears were lost in those explorations! Did you know that the shorter you cut a straw, the greater the impact on the pitch? These young learners know not only that it happens, but why.

THE WRITTEN WORD

Whether reading *Lord of the Flies* in middle school, or *Julius Caesar* in high school, Zoom reading sessions are an opportunity to explore the thematic elements of the text, explore character motivations, as well as articulate a point of view—all essential aspects of literary analysis.



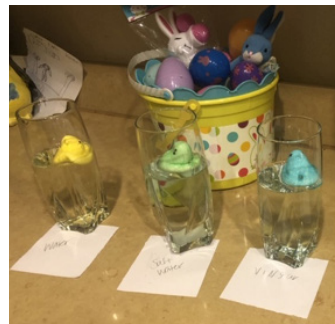
I, ROBOT

FIRST Robotics Competition has closed for the season due to the pandemic, but prior to the closing both STEM Valley and STEM West competed in regionals in San Diego and in El Segundo and their teams were amazing! Now our students are developing and expanding on their engineering and design skills by learning CAD (Computer Aided Design), which is essential to custom designing parts for Robotics.



REACHING FOR THE STARS

What did the Hubble Telescope see on your birthday? Using the NASA interactive website, students looked up what Hubble saw on their birthday, and presented to the class in a Zoom video chat. Discussions after involve the concepts of distance and time, size and location, astronomy and cosmology.



LEARNING CENTER SCIENCE

Students in The Help Group Learning Center have been hard at work on their Science Fair experiments! Bedrooms and kitchens, living rooms and garages have been converted into labs. Fizzes and crackles, color changes and more than one 'Bang!' have echoed in student homes. Home-schooling has never been so much fun!

The Help Group

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The Learning Center

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