



Austintown Middle School **STEM Newsletter**



February 2017

Calendar

Tuesday, Mar. 7- Students at STEM Day at AIS

Wednesday, Mar. 8- 2 hr. Early Dismissal

Wednesday, Mar. 15- Jr. STEM meeting

Friday, Mar. 17- End of 3rd nine weeks

Monday, Mar. 20- Start of ELA AIR Testing

April 10-14- Spring Break

Monday, Apr. 24- Start of Math AIR Testing

Wednesday, April 27- Start of Science AIR Testing (8th Grade)

April 29- SBD Cleveland Race

Saturday, May 20- Soap Box Derby STEM Race in Akron



8th grade students display their Valentine's Day boxes.

APPLY NOW

Applications for the AMS and Fitch STEM Program are being accepted for the 2017-2018 school year. Click on the link to access the application. Seats are limited. Deadline is April 3rd or until all seats are filled.

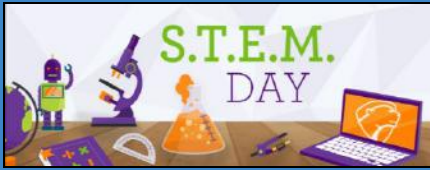
[STEM Applications Link](#)

Hello Everyone,

This is your STEM Parent Update for the month of February. All STEM students are working hard with their Soap Box Derby teams to film infomercials, write press releases, design team website, and preparing for the races. Students will continue to work on the cars and optional contests in the next few weeks along with other STEM projects. The STEM Gravity Racing Challenge race dates have finally been set by the All American Soap Box Derby for May 20th in Akron and also April 29th in Cleveland. We will be competing in both again this year.

**PARENT
INFORMATION
NIGHT**

There will be an informational parent night for 8th grade families regarding the Fitch High School STEM Program on **March 2 at 6pm in Mr. F's Room, C202.**



Tuesday, March 7th the AMS and Fitch STEM students will be hosting STEM Day at AIS. ALL 4th graders will receive hands on, STEM lessons from experienced STEM students.



Deanna showing 6th graders how to program a testbed using ROBOTC.



Student Practice Site



Resources

State testing will take place in April with both grades testing in Math and Language Arts and 8th grade only testing in Science. Parents can [click here](#) to check out more information and see practice tests.



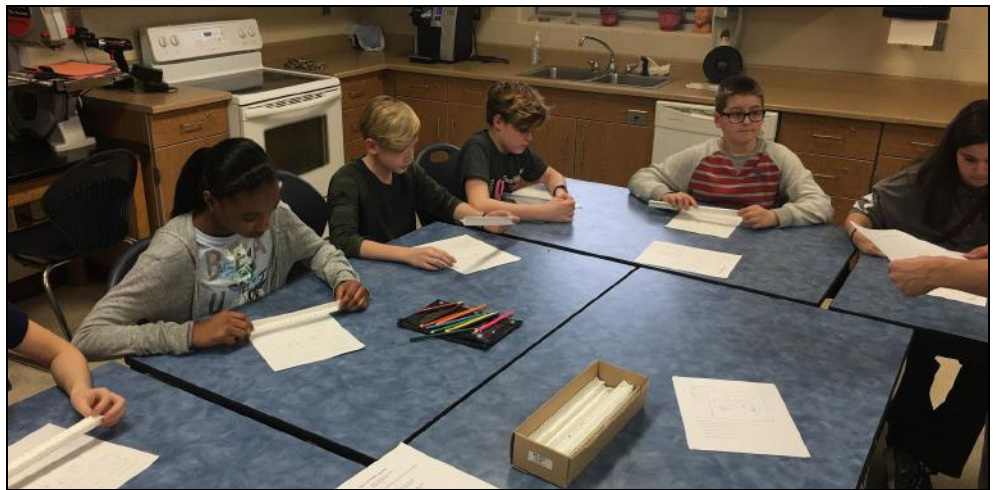
Sarah talking to a group of 6th graders during Junior STEM about Soap Box Derby.



Laura, Maryn, and Deanna presenting their grassland biome models.

schoolology
learn. together.

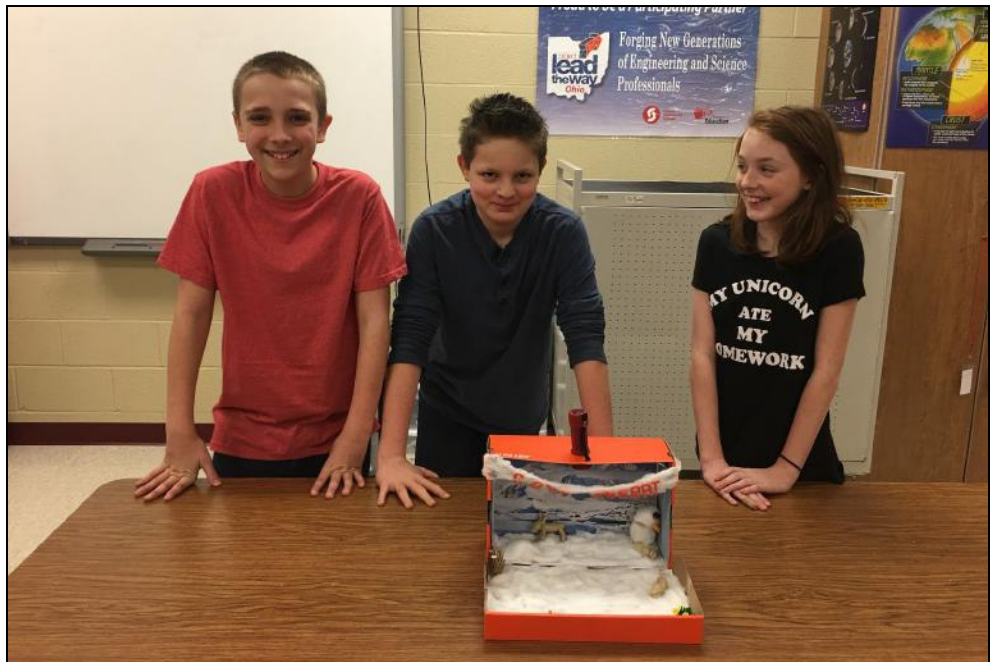
Parents can check out Schoolology on any device to access content and assignments. Ask your child for login information if you have not already.



Students learning how to create floor plans using scale drawings during Junior STEM.



We are out of tissues in our classrooms. Please consider bringing a box to class. Thank you!



Connor, Jude, and Emma showing off their model of a cold desert biome.



Students prepare for the AIS STEM DAY by putting together testbeds to teach student how to program.



Aiden, Sarah, and Jon posing with their savannah biome model.



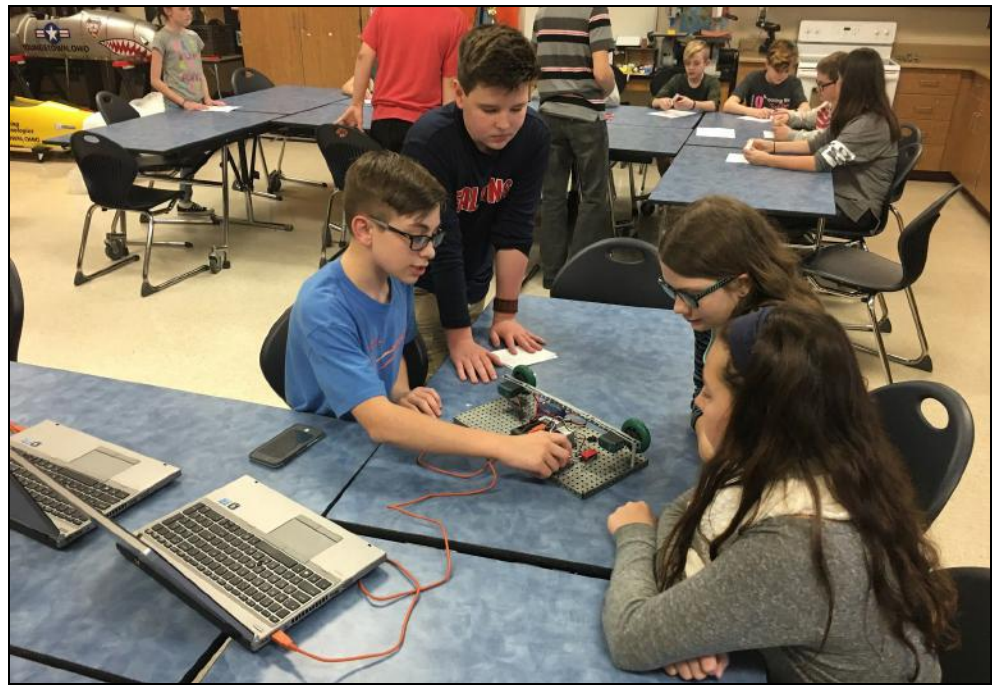
Students measure out support beams while learning the basics of building in the Green Architecture unit.



Students measuring the room while learning about measurement and scale during the Green Architecture unit.



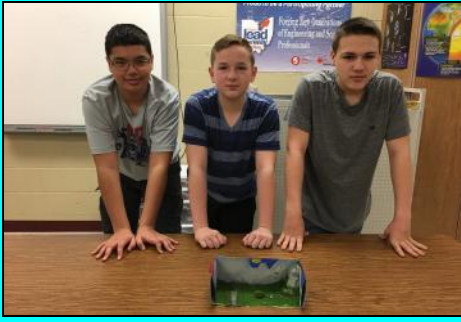
Candice and Emma were all smiles learning about scale and measurement in the Green Architecture.



Vince and Steve showing students how to wire a testbed.

7th Grade

- ★ 7th grade STEM students are learning how to program using ROBOTC. They have already programmed testbeds that use push buttons and limit switches to start and stop motors and LED lights. The class is now broken into 6 groups, where they are working to complete their first “Engineering Job”. Group projects include “Terry the Traffic Tamer”, “Toll Booth”, “Grandma’s Chair”, “Road Trip”, “Pick and Place”, and “Elevator Challenge”.
- ★ In Math, we finished our “Moving Straight Ahead Unit”, which dealt with linear relationships. This is a topic that will come up again in 8th grade Math. We are currently into our next unit, “What Do You Expect?”, which deals with probability.
- ★ In Science, students work in groups to research a biomes. Each group wrote an informational paper, as well as designed a model of their chosen biome.



Tommy, Aiden, and Ethan displaying their model of an alpine biome.



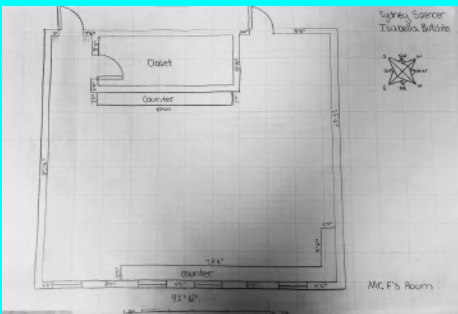
Students building a wall using scaled dimensional lumber.

8th Grade

- ★ 8th grade STEM students are learning about wood frame construction in preparation for building a house using scaled dimensional lumber in class.
- ★ They will finish up the unit within the next week or so and begin on the final project. We will start converting floor plans from paper to the computer using architectural software. All of these skills will be utilized in the final project where the students will be given a budget to buy a plot of land, design, budget, and build a house creating detailed paper and digital floor plans of each level.



Measuring the classroom.



C202 Floor Plan by Sydney and Isabella.



- ★ In Science, students are working in groups to design experiments relating to gravitational, magnetic, and electrical force.

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[Austintown STEM Website](#)

[AMS STEM Student Website](#)