



STEM Detective Lab's

2023 Yearly Calendar

Filled With a Year of STEM/STEAM

Events & Activities



January 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Do your kids own any robots? If so, celebrate National Science Fiction Day on January 2 by watching a science fiction movie that has a robot character or two, then help your kids use their own robots for some fun STEM activities.						
1 New Year's Day	2 Natl. Science Fiction Day	3	4 Isaac Newton's Birthday	5 National Bird Day	6 Full Moon	7
8 Earth's Rotation Day Stephen Hawkin's Birthday	9 Natl. Static Electricity Day	10	11	12	13	14 Last Quarter
15	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17	18	19	20	21 New Moon
22 Lunar New Year	23	24	25	26	27	28 First Quarter
29 Intl. & Natl. Puzzle Day	30	31	<p>Sir Isaac Newton, one of the most prominent scientists in history, was a physicist, astronomer, theologian, and author.</p> <p>Cool trivia: Newton's Cradle, a popular desktop toy in the 1970's, demonstrates the Conservation of Energy & Motion and Newton's Laws of Motion.</p>			

February 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Black History Month Celebrate Black History Month with a look at famous Black scientists and how their work would fit in today's STEM/STEAM disciplines.			1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4
 5 Full Moon	6	7 National Periodic Table Day	8	9	10	11 National Inventors' Day ----- Intl. Day of Women and Girls in Science
12	 13 Last Quarter	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17 Great Backyard Bird Count 2/17 – 2/20	18
19 National Engineers Week	 20 New Moon Presidents' Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	 27 First Quarter National Invasive Species Awareness Week	28			National Periodic Table Day on Feb. 7 th commemorates the publication of the first periodic table by John Newlands in 1863.	

5 B Boron	6 C Carbon	7 N Nitrogen	8 O Oxygen	9 F Fluorine	10 Ne Neon
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In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly declared February 11th to be the **International Day of Women and Girls in Science**. Marie Curie, the only woman to win a Nobel Prize in the field of science, is well-known, but what about Katherine Johnson? A quick Google search on famous women in STEM fields will reveal that women are major contributors to STEM fields.

Every February since 1998, bird lovers of all ages have been able to participate in a massive 4-day citizen-science project sponsored by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society.

Activity: Check out our **Build a Better Bird Nest STEM Investigation** post for additional information and our Build a Better Bird Nest STEM project.

March 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
<p><i>Oh, the Thinks You Can Think!</i> – What better book to read on Dr. Seuss Day (Mar. 2nd) than one that encourages thinking. What STEM ideas can your students think up?</p>				Dr. Seuss Day	World Wildlife Day	
5	6	 Full Moon	7	8	9	10
11						
12	13	 Last Quarter	14	15	16	17
<p>Natl. Plant a Flower Day ----- Daylight Saving Time Begins</p>		<p>National Pi Day ----- Natl. Children's Craft Day</p>				St. Patrick's Day
18						
19	20	 New Moon	21	22	23	24
25						
<p>National Backyard Day</p>	First Day of Spring	National 3-D Day		World Meteorological Day		<p>Earth Hour ----- NanoDays Starts Today</p>
24						
26	27	 First Quarter	28	29	30	31
					National Take a Walk in the Park Day	

Note: Pi Day is celebrated on 3/14 since those are the first three digits of the mathematical constant Pi, which is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter.







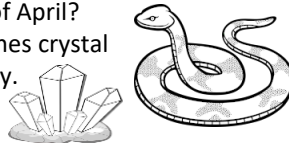
Challenge: Combine **Pi Day** and **National Children's Craft Day** to see what fun Pi themed activities you can do with your kids.

NanoDays is a nationwide event running from the last weekend in March through the first weekend in April that highlights nanoscale science and engineering.

Challenge: See if there's a science museum near you that is offering any NanoDay events.

April 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>What started as a US movement calling for more environmental protections in 1970, Earth Day is now recognized in over 190 countries by over a billion people.</p> <p>Challenge: What fun activities can you do with your kids to celebrate Earth Day?</p>						<p>1</p> <p>Mathematics and Statistics Awareness Month</p> <p>National Robotics Week 4/01 – 4/08</p> <p>----- April Fools' Day</p>
2	3	4	5	<p>6</p> <p> Full Moon</p>	7	8
Geologists Day			National Wildlife Week 4/05 – 5/09			National Zoo Lovers Day
9	10	11	12	<p>13</p> <p> Last Quarter</p>	14	15
	National Encourage a Young Writer Day		International Day for Human Space Flight		National Dolphin Day	World Creativity & Innovation Week 4/15 – 4/21
16	17	18	19	<p>20</p> <p> New Moon</p>	21	22
	International Bat Appreciation Day				World Creativity & Innovation Day	National Earth Day ----- Intl. Mother Earth Day
23	24	25	26	<p>27</p> <p> First Quarter</p>	28	29
World Laboratory Day		National DNA Day ----- World Penguin Day	National Audubon Day ----- National Richter Scale Day			World Veterinary Day
30	<p>Started in 2010, National Robotics Week has a mission to inspire students of all ages in robotics and other STEM related fields.</p>				<p>Looking for a STEM project for the beginning of April? Our DIY Borax Crystal Critters Mystery combines crystal making and backyard critters in one fun activity.</p> 	

May 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
National Inventors Month	1	2	3	4 Bird Day ----- National Star Wars Day	5 Full Moon National Astronaut Day ----- National Space Day	6
7 National Wildflower Week	8	9	10	11	12 Last Quarter	13 Natl. Miniature Golf Day ----- World Migratory Bird Day
14 Mother's Day	15	16	17	18 International Museum Day	19 New Moon Natl. Endangered Species Day	20 World Metrology Day ----- World Bee Day
21	22	23 World Turtle Day	24 Natl. Scavenger Hunt Day	25	26 Natl. Paper Airplane Day	27 First Quarter
28	29 Memorial Day	30 National Creativity Day	31 World Parrot Day			

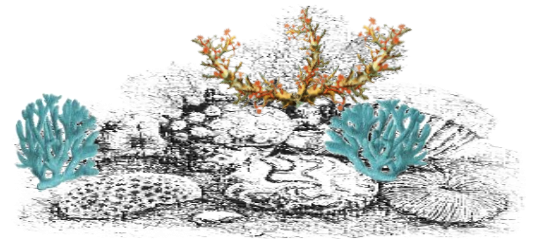
Use **National Endangered Species Day** on May 19th to introduce your kids to the plight of thousands of animals on the endangered list.

Challenge: Divide your kids into groups, assign each group an animal to research, then ask each group to develop a plan to save their animal.

Help your kids celebrate **National Paper Airplane Day** (May 26th) with a quick lesson in aerodynamics, followed by a **Build Your Own Paper Airplane** activity.

There are four aerodynamic forces involved during a paper plane flight - **thrust, aerodynamic lift, gravity, and air drag.**

June 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Are your students learning about oceans this month? If so, use World Reef Awareness Day to help your students discover just how delicate an ocean's coral reef ecosystem is.			National Great Outdoors Month ----- National Zoo and Aquarium Month ----- National Pollinators Month	1 World Reef Awareness Day	2	 Full Moon National Trails, Prairie & Black Bear Day
4	5 World Environment Day	6	7	8 World Oceans Day	9	 Last Quarter 10
11	12	13	14	15 Global Wind Day	16 World Sea Turtle Day	17 World Crocodile Day
 New Moon 18 Father's Day	19 Juneteenth	20	21 World Giraffe Day ----- World Hydrography Day First Day of Summer	22 World Rainforest Day	23 International Women in Engineering Day	24
25	 First Quarter 26	27	28	29 Intl. Day of the Tropics	30 International Asteroid Day ----- National Meteor Watch Day	

World Rainforest Day on Jun. 22nd was started in 2017 to raise awareness on the plight of the world's rainforests.







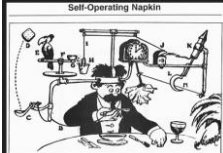
Challenge: Help your students create a presentation on the four layers found in most rainforests. What animals live within each layer? Do any species on the Endangered Species list rely on rainforests to survive? What would happen if we were to lose the rainforests around the world?



Celebrate **National Meteor Watch Day** (6/30) with your kids by sharing meteor fun facts with them. You can also help them create a stargazing journal to record what they see on a clear weekend night.

July 2023




Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
 Combine World UFO Day on Jul. 2 nd with the First Moon Landing on Jul. 20 th , 1969, for a fun-filled STEM Spacecraft Design competition. Who's more likely to make a safe landing on the moon – an alien or a human? Let the results of the competition decide. 						1		
2	 Full Moon	3	4	5	6	7	8	
 Last Quarter	9	10	Rube Goldberg's Birthday ----- Independence Day	11	12	13	14	15
16	 New Moon	17	18	19	20	21	22	
World Snake Day			National Zoo Keeper Week July 18 – July 24		First Moon Landing July 20, 1969		National Moth Week July 22 – July 30	
23	24	 First Quarter	25	26	27	28	29	
					World Nature Conservation Day	International Tiger Day		
30	31	Rube Goldberg , born on July 4 th , 1883, was an American cartoonist and author famous for his cartoons that portrayed comically complex gadgets designed to perform simple, basic tasks. Challenge: Have your kids decide on a simple task they'd like to perform, then help them gather the supplies needed to build their own Rube Goldberg machine. 						

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August 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
National Ride the Wind Day celebrates the day the first human-powered aircraft (the MacCready Gossamer Condor) won the coveted Kremer prize for successfully completing a controlled and sustained flight.		 Full Moon 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	 Last Quarter Global Sleep Under the Stars Night 8	9	10	11	12
13	World Lizard Day 14	15	 New Moon 16	17	18	19 National Aviation Day World Honey Bee Day International Orangutan Day
20 National Radio Day	21	22	23	 First Quarter 24 National Ride the Wind Day	25	26 International Bat Night
27	28	29	 Full Moon 30 Intl. Whale Shark Day	31		

National Aviation Day was first celebrated on Aug. 19th, 1939, when **Franklin D. Roosevelt** designated **Orville Wright's** birthday as a day to celebrate the development of aviation.

Challenge: How do airplanes create lift? Which three forces are in action when an airplane takes flight? Celebrate **National Aviation Day** this year by helping your kids learn the answers to these questions before designing airplanes of their own.



September 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>#WorldKidLitMonth was started through social media in 2016 to celebrate world literature translated from other languages.</p> <p>Challenge: Put a STEM spin on #WorldKidLitMonth and help your kids find STEM themed books published globally.</p> 				#WorldKidLitMonth	1	2
3	4 National Wildlife Day Labor Day	5	6 Last Quarter	7	8	9
10 National Arts in Education Week	11	12 National Video Game Day	13 Day of the Programmer / International Programmers Day	14 New Moon	15 International Dot Day	16 Intl. Red Panda Day
17	18	19	20	21	22 First Quarter World Rhino Day Michael Faraday's Birthday	23 Intl. Day of Sign Lang. First Day of Autumn
24 National Fall Foliage Week	25 Math Storytelling Day	26 National Shamu the Whale Day	27	28	29 Full Moon	30 Save the Koala Day

National Fall Foliage Week starts every year on the last Sunday of Sept. Fall is such a favorite time of year for so many people, this is an ideal time to enjoy a STEM activity with your kids.

Activity: Take your kids on a nature hike, collect a variety of colored leaves, then help them research how leaves change colors. For extra fun, help your kids create leaf animals as an art project.

October 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>October is a busy month when it comes to wildlife awareness issues, and the common theme is just how valuable wildlife is to the world.</p> <p>Challenge: Make a list of several live animal webcams from around the world, then help your kids create a research journal on one of the animals from the list.</p>						
						<p>Raptor Month Bat Appreciation Month Squirrel Awareness Month Right Brainers Rule Month</p>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Intl. Raccoon Appreciation Day		National Techies Day	World Animal Day World Space Week (Oct. 4-10)		Last Quarter	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
World Octopus Day National Metric Week	Columbus Day & Indigenous People's Day	National Metric Day			Natl. Train Your Brain Day	New Moon
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Natl. Wolf Awareness Week						First Quarter International Sloth Day Natl. Reptile Awareness Day
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Intl. Snow Leopard Day					World Lemur Day	Full Moon Intl. Animation Day
29	30	31	<p>National Train Your Brain Day on Oct. 13th is the perfect day to challenge your kids with some puzzles, logic style games, or even riddles.</p> <p>Activity: Start each day this week with a Train Your Brain activity and see how the rest of the day goes. Looking for ideas? Tangrams is always a hit!</p>			
		Halloween				

November 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Aviation History Month ----- National Family Literacy Month	1 Prime Meridian Day	2	3	4 National Bison Day ----- World Numbat Day
 5 Last Quarter Daylight Saving Time Ends	6	7	8 Natl. Parents as Teachers Day ----- National STEM/STEAM Day	9	10 World Science Day for Peace and Development	11 International Origami Day ----- Veterans Day
12	 13 New Moon Geography Awareness Week ----- Natl. Young Readers Week	14	15	16	17	18
19	 20 First Quarter Natl. Game & Puzzle Week	21	22	23 Fibonacci Day ----- Thanksgiving	24 International Systems Engineer Day	25
26	 27 Full Moon	28 Red Planet Day	29	30		





National STEM/STEAM Day on Nov. 8th is a great day to encourage your kids to take a more in depth look at their interests in the STEM/STEAM fields.

Challenge: Combine **National STEM/STEAM Day** with the upcoming **International Origami Day** on Nov. 11th to expose your kids to the mathematical concepts, structural design, and engineering involved with the art of paper folding.



December 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Antarctica Day	2
3	4 National Dice Day World Wildlife Conserv. Day Computer Science Education Week & the Hour of Code	5 Last Quarter World Soil Day	6	7	8 Pretend to be a Time Traveler Day	9
10 Dewey Decimal System Day	11 New Moon	12	13	14 Monkey Day Christmas Bird Count Week 12/14 – 1/05	15	16
17 Wright Brothers Day	18 First Quarter	19	20	21 Crossword Puzzle Day First Day of Winter	22	23 Christmas Eve
24	25 Christmas Day	26 Full Moon	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve		<p>The Hour of Code takes place every year during Computer Science Education Week (Starts Dec. 4th this year). Millions of students around the world participate in this event, making it the largest learning event in history.</p> <p>Challenge: Use Scratch, a block-based visual programming language, to introduce your kids to computer programming. If your kids are already programming wizards, now may be the time to introduce them to the world of robotics. Programming robots is fun at any level.</p>				