

STEM MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPLORERS 2024



STEM Explorers is a 6-week summer program where 30 middle school students from Trenton and Mercer County come together to dive into the world of STEM—Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Participants engage in hands-on experiments, work on exciting projects, and embark on weekly field trips to explore STEM careers and discover more about themselves.

In partnership with: **RUTGERS UNIVERSITY** Cooperative Extension New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station



WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Nature Week Stem Explorers explored nature, planted radishes, learned about bees, and went in the stream to find macroinvertebrates at The Watershed Institute. They got to know themselves and each other.





The youth learned about biodiversity in the ocean, used the engineering design process to build shark protective gear, and explored marine life at the Aquarium.

Marine and Aquatics Week

Engineering Week Stem Explorers used design tools to create projects such as keychains on 3D printers and mug designs using a cricut cutter. They went to Johnson & Johnson and learned about solar panels and packaging engineers.



90%

of youth reported they learned a lot about STEM in the program.

100%

of youth reported learning something about themselves after completing the program.

96%

of youth reported they gained investigative science skills after being in this program.

93%

of youth reported a belief in ability to work well with others and make responsible decisions at the end of the program.







WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Robotics and Coding Week The youth built robots, participated in battle bot competitions, and learned to code using Java. They visted The College of New Jersey to learn about the college admissions process and toured a makerspace.





STEM Explorers worked on iPads to create digital media projects such as stop motion, animations, pop art, and short films. They participated in a career fair with 15 STEM professionals and visted Princeton.

Digital Media Week

Math and Expo Week

Youth played math games to improve their mental math skills and visited Rutgers. They prepared for the Expo, a culminating event to celebrate their achievements. They each presented what they learned at STEM Explorers.

PROGRAM INSIGHTS

One piece of STEM knowledge I gained this week was knowledge on the engineering design process and how to apply it in a real life situation.

-Nzuri

In this program, I've benefited by learning about different forms of STEM and it may have sparked other interests in different STEM fields. It's also taught me about myself and working with others.

-Jayla

One thing I learned about myself was that I am more interested in chemistry or biochemistry than I perceived I was.

- Aniyah

I got more social skills being at program, I learned new things about my self, I learned how to build things. - Alejandro







THANK YOU!

TO OUR FUNDERS



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