

TOMORROW STEMS FROM IOWA

GOVERNOR'S STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

NORTH CENTRAL IOWA STEM REGION

North Central STEM Region

August 2024

New Iowa STEM Website!



Department of Education

Check out the new location of the Iowa STEM website under the Iowa Department of Education: <https://educate.iowa.gov/iowa-stem>.

Make sure to bookmark it!

STEM Scale-Up PD is Underway!



For the past three weeks, North Central Iowa educators have been taking part in the professional development for our STEM Scale-Up programs. During these professional development sessions, educators are able to learn the ins and outs of the Scale-Up Program as well as network with fellow educators and discuss how they plan to integrate the programs into their learning environments.

Take a look below at some of those educators!



All About Balance



Making Innovative STEM Connections

STEM Scale-Up Program Providers - Apply to Be On 2025-26 Menu!



Developers and deliverers of exemplary STEM programs are invited to compete for scaling their program(s) throughout the State of Iowa. The annual scaling of selected programs to educators across Iowa is supported by a generous annual* appropriation by the Iowa legislature alongside private sector investments. **A complete profile of Iowa's STEM Scale-Up initiative, including past programs scaled, may be accessed here.**

The intention of the STEM Scale-Up Program is to bring world-class STEM education opportunities to all learners, especially those historically underserved. The intent is to seed, jumpstart or introduce to Iowans little-known and exemplary lessons, curriculum, enrichment activities and other programs proven to inspire and educate preK-12 students in both formal and informal settings. For the academic year 2025-2026 the proposal window opens on August 5, 2024. **The proposal form and review rubric may be previewed here.**

Below is a list of priority fields for scaling in Iowa. Proposals for other topical fields will also be considered.

- Agricultural science
- Applied engineering
- Computational thinking
- Ecology and energy education
- Mathematics, especially applied and contextual to students' lives
- STEM and arts integration
- STEM careers (especially with local context) – ideally an element of any STEM Scale-Up Program proposal
- STEM programming that integrates into existing curriculum
- Transdisciplinary (integrated) S-T-E-M

Please direct questions regarding Iowa's STEM Scale-Up Program to info@IowaSTEM.org or 515-271-2403.

STEM Checkout Library



Grades PreK-2

STEM Concept: Engineering Design



Grades PreK-2

STEM Concept: Computer Science and Measurement



Our STEM checkout library is back up and running for the school year! Make sure to visit the [Check-Out Form](#) to reserve your STEM kit now. These packs are a great hands on, creative way for students to learn more about various STEM concepts.

Learn more about available kits here:
[Stem Pack Checkout Information](#)

STEM Challenge Cards

PLAY DOUGH ANIMAL CHALLENGE

Materials to Gather: Hair conditioner (1/2 cup), Corn Starch(1 cup), Sparkles or food coloring.

Directions:
 Place cornstarch in a large bowl. Mix in the hair conditioner with your hands until it becomes smooth and pliable. Add a drop or two of the food coloring, or colored sparkles for variation. Add additional hair conditioner when needed to remain soft.

Animal Challenge: Shape your play dough into various animals. How many can you make? Take a picture or video, and post to the NC STEM Region Facebook page!

*Note - This recipe is not edible! don't eat the play dough!



In addition to our checkout library, we have STEM Challenge Cards available by request. Each card has an easy to prepare STEM challenge for when you're looking

for an activity to either supplement content or for students to do during transitional times in the classroom. In addition to the cards, some materials can be requested as well, though many are found easily at home.

To look at the challenge options and request any, click here:

STEM Challenge Card Checkout Check-Out Form

Upcoming Events!

August

- **August 14**
 - Professional Development: Positive Physics
- **August 18**
 - STEM Day at the ISF

September/October

- **September 12-13**
 - Professional Development: Making Innovative STEM Connections
- **October 11**
 - Professional Development: All About Balance
- **October 19**
 - Professional Development: All About Balance

*Know of other STEM events in North Central Iowa? Email us at:
ncstem@iastate.edu*

Connect with us!

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