

Starters for STEM

Starters for STEM are 10 activities that parents can use at home to help children develop their science, technology, engineering and maths skills.

These activities are easy to resource and provide children with the stimulus to talk about the world around them. If you see a link you can explore how to extend these activities, you will need to sign up, for free, to access these materials. Don't forget to share your work on social media

#ScienceFromHome

Nature Treasure Box

Use an empty egg box as a treasure box to collect things from the garden.

Can you collect lots of things of the same colour?
What about different smells?
How many different things can you collect?

Has spring sprung?

Look outside. Can you see how the trees and plants are changing?
What flowers can you see?
Draw a picture to show that spring is here.

<http://tiny.cc/50wx1z>

What can you hear?

Sit really quietly somewhere either in or outside. What can you hear? Can you hear any bird song? Can you identify the birds?

<https://www.british-birdsongs.uk/>

Oh Crumbs!

Take a biscuit and put it in a sealed bag. Now try and crush the biscuit into little pieces while it is still in the bag. Can you pour the biscuit into a bowl? What things can you usually pour out? Is the biscuit a solid or a liquid?

<https://www.stem.org.uk/rx32hm>

As much use as a chocolate teapot!

Think up some silly products, such as a chocolate teapot.
It would melt as soon as you added hot water.
Draw pictures of your ideas.

<https://youtu.be/XOKr462HLc0>

Floating and Sinking

What can you find in your house that sinks in the bath? Are there things that float?

What do you notice? Can you sort them.

<https://www.stem.org.uk/rxfdsu>

What did you have for dinner?

Draw a picture of a big plate and then draw what you had for dinner last night.

Find out what type of foods you ate for your meal e.g. dairy product, protein, carbohydrate
Can you find out why your body needs these types of food?

<https://www.stem.org.uk/rxz5r>

Water Cycle in a bag

Take a clean plastic sandwich bag. Carefully pour some water into it, so it is a third full. Seal it and tape it to a window that gets the sun. Watch what happens inside the bag when the sun is shining on the window. Can you explain this?

<https://www.stem.org.uk/rx32pu>

Parts of a flower

Ask your parents or carers if you can take a flower from the garden.
Carefully dissect it. Can you name the different parts? Do you know what they do?
This booklet might help you.

<https://www.stem.org.uk/rx33qn>

Explore Earth & Space

Join the alien explorer, Paxi, on his adventures around Earth and Space.

Discover the Solar System, comets and how scientists are investigating whether there is life on Mars.

<https://www.stem.org.uk/cx6yuu>