



## What is STEAM?

STEAM learning is an authentic, hands-on approach to learning that integrates science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. The acronym STEM originated with the National Science Foundation; STEAM incorporates the arts.

Through STEAM, Children are Learning...

- To communicate, cooperate, and collaborate
- To construct knowledge and solve problems in creative ways
- How to ask question, make plans, predict outcomes, observe closely, and make inferences
- About physical properties, movement, and forces that affect materials and objects
- About changes that occur in; and environmental needs of the world around them
- About patterns and relationships
- How actions may cause changes
- About numbers and operations
- About spatial relationships & dimensional properties
- Organizational skills to gather information and organize it in a useful way
- Leadership skills

Children are naturally curious and motivated to explore the world around them!

## Why STEAM and the Family?

- Families who participate in hands-on, playful STEAM activities engage in rich oral discussions; which enhance speaking, listening, reading and writing skills.
- STEAM-related topics are engaging and offer a wide variety of books and resources that families can read and share together.
- Family/adult support is critical if children are to maximize STEAM learning.
- STEAM learning provides an avenue for parents to see and experience the enthusiasm that kids have for learning.
- Children do better, work harder, set higher goals and dream bigger when parents are involved in their learning (STEAM activities are naturally experiential and often require parent involvement).
- Shared STEAM experiences create positive relationships and lifelong memories.
- Family centred STEAM activities increase familiarity and comfort levels with science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics.
- STEAM is a way for families to learn together and have fun together.