WHAT IS STEM SCOUTS?

STEM Scouts® is a national program focused on fun ways for girls and boys to learn more about science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Building on the natural curiosity and enthusiasm that young people have for learning, STEM Scouts uses hands-on activities and interaction with STEM professionals to make learning fun, fast-paced and creative.

Educational content, developed and vetted by STEM educators, is designed to be immersive and to inspire teamwork, problem solving and independent thinking. Girls and boys in 3rd - 12th grade develop leadership and communications skills while learning about opportunities in careers that are important to our future economy.

While the program focuses on character development in STEM, it is ultimately designed to be challenging, thought-provoking and, especially, fun. It’s a new kind of scouting, with less emphasis on the outdoors and more emphasis on STEM knowledge.

The STEM Scouts® program aims to teach young people to show leadership, display confidence, realize their skills, respect others’ opinions, become problem solvers in all aspects of life, look for opportunities to serve others, demonstrate good citizenship and show integrity.

» Each meeting begins with the Pledge of Allegiance.

» We collaborate with the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation’s Character Development Program to show that everyday people can accomplish extraordinary things, conduct themselves honorably and put others ahead of themselves.

» Service projects allow STEM Scouts to give back to their communities.

» Each meeting includes the Scout Oath and Law. At least one, but usually two or more points of the Scout Law are related to the topic studied.

» Values are explicitly included in the leader’s guide.

Join us as a volunteer, lead a field trip or teach a Lab lesson. Sponsor a Lab unit through your organization. Spend time with some interesting students and help them explore the world around them in new ways.

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Elementary School

Elementary students learn to be creative experiencing experiments in weekly Lab meetings, taking field trips and working with people in STEM careers. They try new things as they work with others, lead teams and communicate results. STEM Scouts explore exciting STEM-related topics, each grouped into a 6-week series of lessons. Visit the website to learn more about the activities for elementary school STEM Scouts at stemscouts.org.

Middle School

Middle school students dive deeper into STEM topics. They learn to be creative, work with others and try new things, all while taking field trips and working with people in STEM careers. STEM Scouts meet in weekly labs to explore exciting STEM-related topics, each grouped into 6-week series of lessons called modules. Visit the website to learn more about the module activities for middle school STEM Scouts.

High School

High school students take their study of STEM topics to a higher level as they learn through hands-on experiments, field trips and independent study. STEM Scouts meet in weekly labs to explore different STEM-related topics, each grouped in 6-week learning modules. Visit the website to learn more about the activities for high school STEM Scouts.

HOW IT WORKS

The Lab Experience

VOLUNTEER-LED PROGRAM

We’re looking for volunteers, both with and without experience in STEM fields. Lab managers and other volunteers don’t need all the answers, just an enthusiasm for working with curious young minds. We’ll provide all the training.

Trained leaders and S.T.E.P. (short-term, experienced professional) volunteers guide students through hands-on experiments and activities during each six-week learning module. Middle and high school labs require that at least one leader have a STEM background.

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

STEM Scouts depend on Sponsoring Organizations, such as corporations and parent or community groups, to sponsor Labs and help recruit coed volunteers. The organization must encourage field trips, summer camp opportunities and interaction with STEM professionals in order to provide an inside look into how STEM skills are used in business and industry.

Labs meet at a regular time and place. For middle and high school groups, a laboratory setting is preferred for safety purposes, but not required.

LEARN BY DOING

Use hands-on experiments like the ones you do in the STEM Lab to invent new technologies and ideas.

DEVELOP SKILLS

Be creative, develop your leadership, problem-solving, teamwork and communications skills.

BUILD A CAREER

Pave the way for an exciting future. STEM jobs are projected to grow 13% by 2022, and STEM salaries average 29% more than salaries for non-STEM jobs.

PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE

Increase your chances for college scholarships and develop the skills to change people’s lives.