

# STEAM

Teacher and families: the early childhood and primary school curricula support children to develop STEAM skills.

You can encourage young children to develop STEAM skills that help them to become critical thinkers, problem solvers and lifelong learners while playing, or while watching educational shows like *Sesame Street* together.



## Watch together

STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math. There are lots of easy ways to help children develop these skills.

## Observe, question and investigate

- While you're watching Sesame Street episodes like Super Grover and Elmo the Musical together, build on what children are noticing.
- Super Grover notices what is happening, and uses his powers of investigation, observation and technology to face and solve different challenges.
- Like Super Grover, you can observe, question, and investigate with children as you play.
- Give each other clues and go on scavenger hunts together.
- Together, brainstorm ways to fix something that's broken. Then, try it out!



# Play and learn together

### Explore and experiment

- All children can conduct and participate in simple experiments like exploring whether objects will sink or float, or observing what will happen when different colours are mixed together.
- Even cooking becomes an experiment as children watch how food changes as it's cooked or how ingredients like baking soda and vinegar react to each other.
- While you're experimenting together encourage children to make predictions, observations and possible explanations.

### Be a creative engineer

- Children can include the arts and engineering as they plan, draw and create models of their designs using everyday items like reusable bottles, boxes, sticks and leaves.
- Even infants and toddlers can use unbreakable items like clean food storage containers and boxes to build.



Use scientific, math and creative language throughout your day. Encourage children to ask questions about what they're curious about so you can find out together.

Then, follow children's leads as they answer through play and exploration with you.

You can also ask questions like:

- □ How can we find out?
- □ What do you think would happen if \_\_\_\_?
- □ Why do you think \_\_\_\_?
- □ Tell me about what you made please.



## Links to Sesame Street content

#### Songs on YouTube to sing together:

- ✓ <u>"Sesame Street: Monster Rainbow</u> (ROYGBIV)"
- ✓ <u>"Sesame Street: Ellie Goulding Thank You</u> <u>Clouds Song"</u>
- ✓ <u>"Sesame Street: Hailee Steinfeld Sings I</u> Wonder, What if, Let's Try!"

### Visit <u>Sesame Workshop</u>

for many more related activities, printables, and video-based suggestions like:

- ✓ <u>"Science"</u>
- ✓ <u>"Math"</u>
- ✓ <u>"Curiosity"</u>
- ✓ <u>"Art"</u>

to play online games like:

- ✓ <u>"Elmo's Brain Games"</u>
- ✓ <u>"Oscar's Trash Launch"</u>



# Links to find out more together

#### Local resources

- ✓ <u>The Ministry of Education and Youth's</u> <u>Game-Based & Interactive Learning</u> <u>Activities for Early Years</u>
- ✓ <u>Curricular resources</u> like the Resource Book and curriculum guides from the Early Childhood Commission
- ✓ Digital library Book Fusion has free books <u>https://www.bookfusion.com/libraries/MO</u> <u>EYI</u>
- ✓ The children's books <u>I Can Do My Part</u> (<u>https://bit.ly/icandomypart</u>) and <u>I Have</u> <u>Feelings</u> (<u>https://bit.ly/ihavefeelings</u>)
- ✓ <u>Reach Up and Learn Parent Manual:</u> <u>Activities for Children Up to Age 3 Years</u>

#### **Other resources**

- ✓ Play <u>science</u>, <u>engineering</u> and <u>arts</u> online games at <u>www.pbskids.org/games</u>
- ✓ <u>Global Digital Library</u> has 6,000+ free books in over 83 languages (<u>https://digitallibrary.io/</u>)
- ✓ <u>Room to Read's</u> free digital library <u>https://literacycloud.org/</u>
- ✓ Visit <u>PBS Learning Media</u> to go on virtual field trips

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