

# STEM Engagement Best Practices

1. Hands-on experiences are the core
2. Based in real world challenges and problems
3. Aligned to state standards
4. Uses mathematical language to explain the concepts
5. Teaches learning mindset to build student confidence
6. Shows link to career & post-secondary pathways
7. Supported by mentors who are professionals in their field
8. Enrolls and involves the family in STEM
9. Creates / strengthens connections with the community
10. Celebrates learning and successes
11. Cost effective
12. Integrates into and builds on the series of STEM experiences
13. Increases teachers' skills at teaching student-engaging STEM
14. Measurements, to evaluate impact and drive continuous improvement
15. For summer: includes time outdoors in nature's perfect science lab