



Early Learning

Participating Hubs

Columbia Gorge STEM Hub
East Metro STEAM Partnership
Frontier STEM Hub
Greater Oregon STEM Hub
Lane STEM Hub
Mid-Valley STEM-CTE Hub
Northwest STEM Hub
Oregon Coast STEM Hub
Portland Metro STEM Partnership
Southern Oregon STEAM Hub
Umpqua Valley STEAM Hub

Grant Overview

The purpose of the Early Learning Innovation Grant was to increase the time spent on quality STE(A)M Education in early learning environments including homes, childcare sites and pre-schools. The skills and knowledge needed to promote the development of STE(A)M Habits of Mind are not typically highly supported in early learning educator preparation or in the world of parenting education. Young children are naturally curious and keen problem-solvers. STE(A)M learning, when facilitated well, provides natural opportunities to support ways of thinking that include clear communication, persistence, critical thinking and positive attitudes toward STE(A)M disciplines. A strategic and intentional emphasis on STE(A)M thinking across all demographics helps reduce early inequities in access and opportunity. Building equity ensures

that young children can access STE(A)M throughout school, career, and into civic.

Addressing Equity

Across the state, we will continue to build relationships with underserved communities through partnerships with the Early Learning Hubs, Migrant Education, Title IX Homeless Liaisons, Title I Family Liaisons, Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative (OPEC) and advocacy groups working with underserved children. The 12 participating Hubs represent the majority of Oregon, and we are well positioned to learn from one another as we develop the best strategies for creating kits and support materials and to determine best methods of kit distribution. [View the Network](#)

Strategies

- Partnered with Early Learning Hubs, Childcare Resource and Referral agencies, Early Learning Higher Education Partners and Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children to provide professional development and resources to early learning educators, providers and parents.
- Provided STE(A)M related training supports to early childhood educators, providers, and parents.
- Made high-quality early STE(A)M resources and implementation guidance available to practitioners, including childcare providers and educators.

- Provided resources and supports to parents and families for early STE(A)M learning.
- Made lessons available through websites, Oregon Online Learning and other locally available tools.

