



What is STEM?

STEM, *Science Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*, is the idea of educating our students in these four specific disciplines with an interdisciplinary approach rather than teaching these subjects in isolation. STEM uses real world problems and applications to teach concepts and skills that will prepare our students for their futures, potentially in a career in the STEM field.

Why Teach STEM?

STEM engages students in cross-disciplinary activities that create a love for learning and prepares and assists in developing the essential skills such as problem solving, critical thinking, effective communication, collaboration, and determination for future careers. The need for employees in the field of STEM-related jobs continues to increase. Preparing our students now will give them the foundation they need as a successful adult.

What STEM Does

Simply, STEM provides a blended learning environment for students showing them how the scientific method and processes can be applied to everyday life. STEM focuses on real world applications of problem solving and critical thinking.

What does STEM look like in an elementary school?

STEM education focuses on awareness of the different fields and occupations involving STEM and provides a standards-based structure to solving real world problems, connecting science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Like much of our instruction, we strive for STEM to be integrated into all content areas and standards to ensure that student learning is fluid and seamless.

STEM Curriculum

Our school focuses on the Florida Standards for all content areas with the integration of *Project Lead The Way* interdisciplinary modules to bring learning to life. This program empowers students to adopt a design-thinking mindset through compelling activities, projects, and problems that build upon each other and relate to the world around them. These hands-on activities enable them to become creative, collaborative problem solvers ready to take on any challenge.

