



## 2016 STEM Grantee Spotlight

### Fireside Elementary School | STEM Innovation Station

Congratulations to 2016 STEM Grantee, **STEM Innovation Station!** This program provided K-6 students at Fireside Elementary School a space to be "STEMgineers". Using grant-funded technologies such as Chromebooks, 3Doodlers, and Dash & Dot Robots, youth were able to research, create, make, discover, investigate, and invent ways to engineer catapults, engage with coding, Rube Goldberg machines and more. Focusing on developing problem-solving skills, 21st century learning, the 4Cs, and the 6 steps of the Engineering Design Process, youth had so much fun as they seamlessly integrated STEM curriculum with real-world applications of the Next Generation Science Standards learning objectives.



[Check out the 2016 STEM Grantees](#)

## Taking an Ecosystem Approach to STEM Learning

A recent National Research Council report, *Identifying and Supporting Productive STEM Programs in Out-of-School Settings*, highlights the growing need for an "Ecosystem Approach" to STEM learning. STEM is no longer relegated to the classroom, but also "libraries, museums...



diverse broadcast media such as television, podcasts, and film; organized youth programs such as 4-H, after-school or summer camps, and special-interest clubs and hobby groups; and an ever-increasing array of digital media such as personal games, the internet, and social media. Collectively, these formal and informal resources are referred to as the STEM learning ecosystem," (**Connected Science Learning**). This ecosystem provides youth a variety of opportunities to be directly involved in their own STEM learning by building on real-life experiences.

[Read more](#)

## The Limit Does Not Exist

*The Limit Does Not Exist* is a podcast by Forbes that focuses on the intersection of STEM and creativity. The hosts are Christina Wallace, founder of **BridgeUp: STEM**, and Cate Scott Campbell, founder of **11 Betties** and they explore STEAM with a wide variety of talented guests. In the most recent episode (**#21 on November 28**), they chat with Taoufik Nadji, professor of physics, astronomy, math, and forensic science at Interlochen Arts Academy about "his ingenious ways of incorporating arts and science and making STEM thrilling."

[Listen here](#)



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