



2016 STEM Grantee Spotlight Kyrene Community Education | Star Wars Maker Mania

Congratulations to 2016 STEM Grantee, **Star Wars Maker Mania!** This Kyrene Community Education program focused on different STEM disciplines according to weekly themes over the 2016 summer. From Lasers and Circuits Week ("Do You Have the Force?") to geo-caching, youth worked together to learn a variety of new STEM skills and to design and conduct STEM experiments. A favorite activity during this program was when youth created their own biomes with inspiration from Star Wars movies.



[Check out the 2016 STEM Grantees](#)

How Do You Teach Kids to Love Science?

TED Senior Fellow Cesar Harada teaches science to youth in Hong Kong. But it's much more than your typical science class. Harada has "moved his classroom into an industrial mega-space where imaginative kids work with wood, metal, chemistry, biology, optics and, occasionally, power tools to create solutions to the threats facing the world's oceans." In his TED Talk, Harada shares how he encourages his students to use creative problem-solving skills to tackle complex problems in the world around them, and how it develops their love of science.



[Watch Cesar Harada's TED Talk](#)

Report: How STEM Programs Prepare Kids for Tomorrow

A recent report out of the Afterschool Alliance -- *The impact of afterschool STEM: Examples from the field* -- compiles some of the most telling studies on how programs are successfully engaging kids in STEM, teaching them skills and introducing them to STEM careers. The findings suggest what many of us already know: out-of-school time programs can and do play a large role in promoting youth interest in STEM.



Take a look at the findings

Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence

azafterschool.org/STEM

